Hafa Adai!

Over 829 tons of tires shipped for recycling. PAGE 2
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75¢

Saipan Tribune

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JOB FAIR BEA CABRERA
"By the time the cooperative education program is done, we see the students are confident, happy, and equipped with skills, putting them one step ahead," said program coordinator Brandon S. Nicholas.

See story on Page 3

IN CONVICTION FOR THEFT OF DPS CAR

Ogumoro gets no prison time

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ambrosio T. Ogumoro, a former deputy commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, walked free yesterday after getting no prison time in his conviction for car theft.

See OGUMORO on Page 4

Former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro smiles as he walks out of the Guma Hustitia with his counsel, Mark Hanson, after his sentencing for corruption involving a DPS car. Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed no prison sentence on Ogumoro.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Public comments sought in Grotto survey

In an effort to address safety and environmental concerns, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources are seeking public comments to determine the Grotto's user capacity.

According to Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony Benavente, the agencies met last week to resolve issues facing the popular tourist site.

"The user capacity limit survey

See PUBLIC on Page 4

Man, 40, gets 30-year sentence for sex abuse

A 40-year-old man who sexually abused a girl since she was just 13 years old was sentenced to 30 years in prison yesterday.

» Girl gave birth last year

The sexual assault resulted in the then-minor girl to give birth to a premature baby last year. The girl is now 18 years old.

Ruben Atalig Corpuz Jr. pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual abuse

See ABUSE on Page 4

Man, 36, allegedly sexually assaults boy

Police arrested a 36-year-old man in Koblerville Monday night for allegedly sexually assaulting a 15-year-old boy and beating him up inside a car.

Jorlard Osilek Borja was arrested for sexual assault in the second de-

See ASSAULTS on Page 4

17 DAYS BEFORE THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2017

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BUSINESS
Are you willing to pay $1,000 for the latest iPhone?

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WORLD
The often decrepit buildings of Havana couldn't stand up to Irma's winds.

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LIFE & STYLE
The big screen adaptation of Stephen King's "It" shattered records.

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NEW STORE HOURS
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8:00am to 5:00pm

TSL Plaza | Wireless Express Center
Monday to Friday
9:00am to 6:00pm

Kagman Store
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00am to 6:00pm

IT&E

Local

Over 829 tons of tires shipped for recycling

The Solid Waste Management Division under the Department of Public Works recently shipped over 829 tons of used tires to South Korea for recycling.

According to Public Works Secretary James Ada, the recycling facility at the Lower Base transfer station turned over 28 40-foot containers to a contractor for repurposing.

"We have been fortunate enough to process and ship the used tires that will be used for batching concrete in construction. The importation of tires by developing countries is very seasonal and we are pleased to address the overflow of used tires collected over the years using this option," Ada said.

Ada sais the recycling facility recently purchased a tire shredder for heavy equipment tires to perform proper balling. He further noted that the facility has also collected 85 tons of cardboard and 40 tons of metal, which will also be shipped for processing to free up landfill space.

"We want our community to understand that items that go through the transfer station are sorted out, which is a huge part of the process. The landfill is really a precious resource that we strive to protect and reduce further impact because it is a limited resource," Ada said.

With the recent appropriation of $2.3 million by the Saipan and Northern Islands Delegation, funding will allow for additional capacity at the Marpi landill, said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

"As we've seen with the former Puerto Rico landfill, it is important that we address solid waste management through available and affordable methods. Sorting out recyclables has been an enormous undertaking, but it plays a significant role in our infrastructure improvements and waste management. We hope that, through these mitigation efforts…we can prevent pollution and other contaminants from leaching into groundwater and our surrounding resources and in time develop more efficient methods for solid waste disposal," Torres said. ***(PR)***

SPECIAL
Monday 11th to Friday 15th, double the number of entries in Super Raffle this week.
See Venue for Details
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TanHolding, TSL Foundation donate $1.3K sports equipment to Rota youth

VA'INA LIZAMA

Rota Department of Fire and Emergency Management Services staff thanks TanHoldings and Tan Siu Lin Foundation for their donation of sports equipment.

By VA'INA LIZAMA
INTERN REPORTER

ROTA—TanHoldings and its charitable arm, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, turned over sports equipment to the Rota Department of Fire and Emergency Services last Friday at the Dr. Rita H. Inos High School.

The island's DFEMS invited the Rota Mayor's Office and the island's teachers and students to attend the turnover ceremony and personally thank the company and the foundation for their generous donation of more than $1,300 worth of sports equipment.

"Here on Rota, we don't really have much activities or extracurricular activities, but this a really good way to get the community together, especially our youth. [This will] keep them happy, healthy, active, and stay away from drugs," said Rota DFEMS officer-in-charge Bobbie Jean Taisacan.

The sports equipment will be stored at the Rota fire station. Anyone interested in borrowing the equipment will have to meet with fire prevention officer Victorino Mendiola. DFEMS and Fire Prevention Committee will be having a set schedule for all the children and the community to use the equipment.

DFEMS also extended its special thanks to TanHoldings FC coaches for coming all the way from Saipan to do a presentation on soccer for the students of Rota.

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM
Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.
Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

Torres signs House Bill 20-116, SD2 into law

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres signed House Bill 20-116, SD2 into law yesterday.

Authored by Rep. Angel A. Demapan, the bill appropriates $7,129,041.76 to pay the balance of the annual payments due to the Settlement Fund for fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

"I commend the members of both House and the Senate for working together to address the issues deliberately and for prioritizing the protection of our retirees' pensions. This is our collective commitment for acting in the best interests of our retirees and their families," Torres said.

The bill becomes Public Law 20-09. ***(PR)***

Students learn the ropes of job-hunting

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System staged another job fair as part of its cooperative training program, giving its students a stab at landing interviews with private companies that will hopefully lead to a job offer.

The job fair, held Sept. 7 at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort, featured both private businesses and government agencies that had job openings for junior and senior high school students.

"With cooperative education, there is so much opportunities for growth," said co-op program coordinator Brandon S. Nicholas. "We hope to build a bridge to connect our students to the future and help them establish a firm foundation in which they can build upon."

By the time the students finish cooperative education program, "we see the students are confident, happy and equipped with skills that will put them one step ahead," Nicholas added.

Cooperative education is an elective class at all high schools.

According to Nicholas, it's a two-part class. The first part occurs in the classroom where students are engaged in rigorous curriculum that includes résumé writing, personal finance, financial literacy, interview skills, and workplace skills and behavior.

The second part entails off-campus exposure for the students, when they are exposed to interviews at the job fair, work in actual job sites, and on-the-job training that includes real-life application of what they learned in the classroom.

McDonald's Saipan was present at the job fair to recruit students to work at an international corporation.

"We always always support [the PSS co-op program]. We've seen the results and a number of students that have applied with us through the program have continued on, even beyond the program and graduation," said Mabel Ayuyu, who is executive assistant to the McDonald's president. "McDonald's want to be the first job that someone has. Whether they have a career with McDonald's or [not], we are able to lock down that foundation of what it's like to be disciplined and be in a work environment and having standards that are expected of all employers."

One of the public agencies that joined the job fair was the Department of Public Lands. DPL special assistant Michelle Cabrera Atalig said that many of the students did not know about DPL "so we were happy to give them some insight into what we do. There is so much activity happening in public lands."

"I think that giving students the opportunities and tools while young will better help shape them for the workforce. It is like we are grooming them and how we can help harness their skills and talents," Atalig said.

Teesha Aguon, a senior high school student from the Da'Ok Academy High School, was excited and early at the job fair.

"I applied at the Division of Youth Services. I want to be a therapist in the future and I feel the training at DYS deals with the basics like children and a lot of problems that I really like to handle. I'm really good at talking to people and try to help them to get back on their feet," she said.

Nicholas was very happy with the turnout and the number of companies and public agencies that continue to support the program.

"We are very fortunate that a lot…continue to support our programs. Without them, our program would cease to exist," he said.

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Scheduled power outage on Saturday

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Saturday, Sept. 16, 2017, from 6:30am to 11:30am.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to safely replace deteriorated power pole hardware on Isa Drive, from the entrance of the Valley View Apartments toward the Kagman Mobil gas station. This is part of an ongoing systems maintenance project to strengthen and harden the integrity of the power distribution system throughout the island.

Water services to Capital Hill, Papago, Sadog Tasi, Lower Navy Hill, the hospital, and Garapan will be interrupted during the power outage; however, all services should be restored after the power is re-energized.

Areas to be affected are Isa Drive (Ifet Dr., Yogga Ln., Almond Pl., Piao Ln., Lampauye Pl., Chunge Pl., Fakpe Pl., Fahang Dr., Frigate Pl., and Seagull Pl.), As Teo, and Papago (Betbena Dr., Lala Pl., Pandanus Dr., Piut Ln., Asetga Ln., Inkberry Ln., Omumu Ln., Afuurh Ln., Ghaayil Ln., Monkey Pod Pl., Acacia Pl., Alom Pl., and Papage Dr.)

Water wells to be affected include AG-45B, AG-50. AG-70, AG-72A, AG-73, AG-121, and Donnie Spring.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the interrupted areas.

For more information, contact CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282). ***(PR)***

NMC Tinian to host info session on PLA

The Northern Marianas College's Tinian Center will be hosting a free information session to highlight the Prior Learning Assessment Program.

The session will be held on Friday, Sept. 15, 2017, at the Henry G. Hofschneider conference room, Tinian Mayor's Office, from 10am to 11am.

The Prior Learning Assessment Program can help working and retired professionals enhance their résumés with college credit, earn college credit toward a degree of their choice, and get ahead in or reenter the workforce.

Students enrolled in the program may receive up to 30 credit hours toward degree completion.

The Prior Learning Assessment Program is ideal for adult students who wish to complete a degree while working in their careers. The typical student enrolling in this program is generally 25 years or older with at least five years of work experience and meets the general admission requirements of the college.

In addition to the Prior Learning Assessment Program, the info session will feature a discussion on the availability of scholarships for government and private sector employees.

For more information about the upcoming PLA information session, contact Maria Aguon at 433-0657 or email maria.aguon@marianas.edu or visit marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

MVA, Delta begin travel agent familiarization tour series

Travel agents from Japan experience dining at Bubba Gump's on Saipan on Sept. 5, 2017. MVA

On Sept. 2-5, 2017, the Marianas Visitors Authority and Delta Air Lines began a three-part cycle of familiarization tours for Japanese travel agents.

Nine travel agents participated in the first tour, which allowed them to gain firsthand knowledge of the Marianas in order to better sell the destination to potential visitors. Participating travel agencies were JTB World Vacations, HIS, Kinki Nippon Tourist, Tobu Top Tours, ST World Inv., Nissin Travel Service, and IACE Travel. The group was also joined by a Delta representative.

"In Japan, travel agents are still very influential in helping travelers choose their destination, so bringing in agents to experience the destination themselves is one of the best ways to equip them to create new tour products," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Ultimately, we want them to fall in love with the Marianas during their stay and to share that experience with their customers."

The group inspected accommodations at Mariana Lounge, Aqua Resort Club, Kensington Hotel Saipan, GrandVrio Resort Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Saipan World Resort, and Kanoa Resort.

Dining was experienced at 747 Dining & Bar, Hard Rock Café Saipan, Loco Taco, and Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.

Additional activities included SandCastle Saipan cocktail show, an eco-adventure tour with Marianas Trekking, marine activities at Managaha, Joyful Dinner Show at Fiesta Resort, Sea Touch marine animal encounter, shopping at T-Galleria and I Love Saipan, and a visit to the Imperial Pacific Resort Hotel casino.

The group lodged at Hyatt Regency Saipan during their tour. Two additional tours are scheduled for the coming months. ***(MVA)***

OGUMORO

From Page 1

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, who handed down the sentence, believed that sending Ogumoro to prison is a waste of the government's money.

"I am not going to send Mr. Ogumoro to jail," said Govendo at the sentencing hearing that was attended mostly by Ogumoro's family members, relatives, and friends.

The judge, however, stated that he does not condone public officials engaged in public corruption.

Govendo sentenced Ogumoro to six years in prison, all suspended, for theft by deception and misconduct in public office.

Ogumoro had been convicted of stealing a 1995 Toyota Tercel owned by DPS when Ogumoro was still the acting DPS commissioner.

As part of his punishment, he was placed on six years of probation and ordered to pay a $5,000 fine, $2,500 in restitution to DPS, and $125 in court assessment fee plus probation fee. He was also ordered to perform 1,000 hours of community service and write a letter of apology.

Govendo told Ogumoro that the community holds him in high regard, yet he breached the public's trust.

"Please, I don't want to see you in this court in the future," Govendo told the defendant, who nodded.

About eight people, including Zoning board chair Diego Blanco, pleaded with the court for a lenient sentence for Ogumoro. Govendo said he also received several letters, asking for the same thing.

One of those letters came from former governor Juan N. Babauta, who stated that he met with Ogumoro and that the defendant had expressed remorse.

When asked if he wants to say something about Babauta's letter, his lawyer, Mark Hanson, replied that his client won't be speaking as he will appeal his conviction.

After a 10-minute recess, Hanson said that Ogumoro maintains his innocence but regrets putting other people on the spot.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas had recommended a five-year sentence, saying it will send a message to corrupt officials and deter crimes similar to the ones committed by Ogumoro.

Barcinas pointed out that Ogumoro's conduct undermined the faith the public in the government.

The prosecutor said Ogumoro was the acting DPS commissioner, empowered to deal with public money.

"It is a position of public trust. Every time a public official commits an offense of dishonesty, that trust is abused," Barcinas said.

She noted that Ogumoro does not accept responsibility for his actions and that he is no stranger to the justice system, being a repeat offender.

"This is not his first. This is his third chance," Barcinas said, pointing out that this is not Ogumoro's first conviction and that he has been given several chances.

Hanson said that Ogumoro has been punished already and, in fact, had just served a year in prison in connection with a previous case involving former governor Benigno R. Fitial and former attorney general Edward Buckingham.

Govendo said that, based on Ogumoro's record, he has no doubt that Ogumoro was an outstanding Marine and can contribute to the community. However, he also needs to be punished.

As soon as Govendo stood up after the sentencing, some family members and friends of Ogumoro clapped their hands. Wearing a long sleeve, a tie, and a pair of slacks, Ogumoro was seen smiling at the people in the courtroom.

When asked for comments after the sentencing, Barcinas said they are disappointed that Ogumoro did not get prison time.

At the time of the offense, Barcinas said, Ogumoro held one of the highest law enforcement positions in the Commonwealth and used his position to defraud the government of public funds for his personal gain.

Barcinas said the government will continue to prosecute all public corruption cases and hold public officials accountable.

"We would like to thank the Office of the Public Auditor and the Department of Public Safety for their continued assistance and collaboration with our office in securing a conviction against the defendant," she said.

Barcinas said Attorney General Edward Manibusan is proud of the OAG in its effort in prosecuting public corruption cases and will continue to support these efforts.

Last May, a jury found Ogumoro guilty of of two corruption charges, but was acquitted of four other charges. Ogumoro was found guilty of stealing a 1995 Toyota Tercel owned by DPS but not the computer equipment.

The jury also found the former DPS official guilty of theft by deception but not guilty of theft by unlawful taking.

Govendo, who decided on the misdemeanor charges, found Ogumoro guilty of misconduct in public office, not guilty of two counts of removal of government property, and not guilty of one count of misconduct in public office.

According to the charges, Ogumoro brought the 1995 Toyota Tercel that belonged to DPS to a shop to be repaired using DPS funds totaling $2,500 in 2002 and then sold the vehicle as "scrap" for only $50 to Herman M. Manglona.

Manglona is the brother of Ogumoro's common-law wife, Katherine Manglona.

The prosecution also alleged that Ogumoro instructed a DPS staff to bring a DPS desktop computer to a shop for repairs using DPS funding in the amount of $276. The computer, along with a laptop, printer, and other DPS property, were later used in the office of True North Bar & Grill, which is owned by Ogumoro.

In January 2015, a Superior Court jury found Ogumoro guilty of conspiracy to commit theft of services pertaining to the shielding of Buckingham case.

Then-associate judge David A. Wiseman found Ogumoro guilty of five counts of misconduct in public office, one count of obstructing justice: interference with a law enforcement officer or witness, and one count of criminal coercion.

In March 2016, Wiseman imposed a one-year prison term on Ogumoro plus other conditions.

PUBLIC

From Page 1

will help us better determine the amount of traffic going in and out of the Grotto. There are many safety and environmental concerns to consider. We know that visitor numbers are increasing and we have to find ways to better manage this influx," Benavente said.

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality administrator Frank Rabauliman said that better monitoring of tourism's impact on the area is needed.

"Our community, as well as tourists, will be able to provide their input on user capacity limits to the Grotto and, at this time, we are considering a gate installation as well as tour operator certification to further address violations or shortfalls," Rabauliman said.

With the growing number of visitors, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres urges the community to provide their feedback on the user capacity limits.

"Grotto is one of our most vital tourist attractions and we know that increased vigilance is needed in the area to protect our resources. Public Law 11-106 allows DLNR to create rules for tourist access to parks and to apply user fees to support site maintenance and enforcement efforts. With this, along with an information kiosk and appropriate tour operator licenses, sustainable residential and tourist use can be maintained," Torres said.

The user capacity survey is available in English, Korean, Japanese, and Mandarin. Members of the community and stakeholders and invited to take part in the survey online at http://gov.mp/2017/09/11/public-input-sought-for-grotto-user-capacity-survey/ or https://goo.gl/3vDJiC. ***(PR)***

ON THE NET

- http://gov.mp/2017/09/11/public-input-sought-for-grotto-user-capacity-survey/
- https://goo.gl/3vDJiC

ASSAULTS

From Page 1

gree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Police said that, according to the father, his son was crying and shaking because of the incident.

A $50,000 cash bail was imposed on Borja yesterday; preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 21 at 1:30pm.

A police officer met with the boy's father, who had called the police, last Saturday at 6:07pm

In an interview with police, a witness stated that he and the 15-year-old boy were on a vehicle with Borja after a family picnic to go home.

While heading along Beach Road, Borja allegedly reached over and touched the boy, who was in the front passenger seat. The boy pushed Borja's hand away several times, repeatedly telling him to stop.

The defendant then parked next to a laundry shop and allegedly kept touching the boy, who then performed a headlock on Borja. When the boy let him go, Borja allegedly punched him on the shoulder, head, and chest.

The witness said the boy got out of the car, walked home, and called his father on the phone and told him about what happened. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

ABUSE

From Page 1

of a minor in the first degree.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio sentenced him to 45 years in prison, all suspended except for 30 years.

Corpuz will serve the sentence without the possibility of parole, with credit for 294 days of time served.

After serving his sentence, Corpuz will be placed on supervised probation for 15 years.

He was ordered to pay a $10,000 fine, register as a sex offender, and complete counseling by the Adult Probation Office, including sex offender treatment.

During his probation, Corpuz will be prohibited from consuming any alcoholic beverages and from using illegal drugs.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub prosecuted the case. Assistant public defender Jamal Saleh served as counsel for Corpuz.

Corpuz sexually abused the girl on two separate occasions—in September and October 2016—on Saipan.

Corpuz, a resident of Kagman, was arrested in November 2016 and he immediately confessed.

Police said the victim's mother only discovered the sexual abuse after the girl was taken to the hospital for a stomachache in November 2016. While in the hospital, she was found to be eight months pregnant and was about to give birth. She later gave birth.

According to the girl, Corpuz forced her to have sex with him since she was just 13 years old. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NMI gets $79K to expand emergency programs

The CNMI has been awarded federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

The Commonwealth has been selected to receive an award of $79,820 under Phase 34 of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program to supplement and expand emergency food and shelter programs in the Commonwealth. The award for the Commonwealth is based upon the total number of unemployed as compared to the total number of unemployed in all qualifying jurisdictions.

The selection was made by the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army; American Red Cross; United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A; and United Way of America.

A local board made up of the American Red Cross, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Division of Youth Services, Karidat, Salvation Army, Youth with a Mission and others will determine how the funds appropriated by the U.S. Congress to the CNMI are to be distributed among local emergency food and shelter programs.

Local boards must ensure that agencies selected for funding meet the requirements on the local recipient organization certification form and all selected LROSs have signed the Phase 34 LRO certification and/or fiscal agent/fiscal conduit form prior to the submission of the local board plan. In addition, in selecting agencies for funding, local boards should ensure that agencies selected have the capacity to either charge back or expend Phase 34 funding during the jurisdiction's selected spending period. Agencies selected must be able to completely and accurately obtain, retain, and submit (if requested) the required expenditure documentation with their final reports and required spreadsheets

Additional information regarding the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program can be found on the EFSP website, http://www.efsp.unitedway.org.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds may contact John Hirsh, EFSP local board chairman, at 234-3459 or at the main office on Airport Road, Saipan or Lauri Ogumoro at Karidat at 234-6981. The deadline for applications is Friday, Sept. 22, 2017. ***(PR)***

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Stk#AUF03224
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 4.0 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 43900
Color: Oxford White
$18,995

2011 Ford Ranger Sport Super Cab
Stk# BPA62697
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 4.0 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 48832
Color: Magnetic Gray
$18,995

2014 Ford Escape SE
Stk#EUB03527
Drivetrain: FWD
Engine: 1.6 Liter Ecoboost
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 12449
Color: Magnetic Gray
$19,995

2013 Nissan Maxima SV Sport
Stk# DC816012
Drivetrain: FWD
Engine: 3.5 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 20568
Color: Brilliant Silver
$24,995

2014 Nissan Frontier SV
Stk# EN765588
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 4.0 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 38812
Color: Brilliant Silver
$24,995

2014 Nissan Murano SL
Stk# EW411794
Drivetrain: FWD
Engine: 3.5 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 26886
Color: Gun Metallic
$24,995

2015 Nissan Frontier S Crew Cab
Stk# FN763158
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 4.0 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 5200
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Transmission: Automatic
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Color: Arctic Blue
$25,995

2015 Nissan Frontier SV Crew Cab
Stk# FN700804
Drivetrain: 4WD
Engine: 4.0 Liter
Transmission: Automatic
Est. Mileage: 25000
Color: Gun Metallic
$26,995

2016 Ford F150 Super Crew Cab XL
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Ethics Committee extends review of Guam delegate

In this June 12, 2017, file photo, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, from left, Delegate Madeleine Bordallo, D-Guam, and Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Joseph Dunford, talk before a House Armed Services Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. AP

By KEVIN FREKING
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Ethics Committee said Monday it will continue a review of Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo, a Democrat who potentially profited from a foreign government through the rental of a home.

In its announcement, the committee also released recommendations from the Office of Congressional Ethics which found "substantial reason to believe" Bordallo rented the home in Guam to the Japanese Consulate.

The Constitution bans federal office holders from accepting any present, emolument or office from any king, prince or foreign state without Congressional consent. Some 200 Democratic senators and representatives are plaintiffs in a lawsuit alleging President Donald Trump is violating the so-called emoluments clause of the Constitution.

As part of its investigation, the Office of Congressional Ethics said the House Ethics Manual tells members and employees that they may not receive "any payment for services rendered to official foreign interests, such as ambassadors, embassies, or agencies of a foreign government."

The Office of Congressional Ethics says Bordallo didn't cooperate with its review and it couldn't determine the amount of rental profit Bordallo has received. The office estimates that she likely received close to $800,000 in rental income since March 2008, the year the office came into being.

Adam Carbullido, a spokesman for Bordallo, says she has received no benefit above fair market value and Bordallo believes the agreement doesn't violate federal law or House rules. He said the agreement to rent her home in Guam was entered into in 1993, which was long before she won election to the House in 2002.

One of the jobs of the House Ethics Committee is to review the merits of recommendations from the independent Office of Congressional Ethics. The office also stated there is substantial reason to believe Bordallo accepted gifts of free lodging, meals, and amenities for multiple weeks per year during her service in Congress.

According to Carbullido, the congresswoman says staying in the Outrigger Hotel, which is owned completely by her sister's family, doesn't violate federal law or House rules.

"Congresswoman Bordallo respects this important process and looks forward to working with the committee to resolve this matter," her spokesman said.

Kilili: $900K for Tinian runway rehab

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) announced yesterday $881,148 in federal funding for rehabilitation of the runway at Tinian International Airport. The funds are being provided to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

"Without federal funding to maintain our airports, seaports, and roads, Marianas taxpayers would have to pay for the upkeep of these critical facilities," Sablan said. "That is why I will continue to be a strong supporter of federal investment in infrastructure in the insular areas."

Last week, as part of a fiscal 2018 omnibus appropriation for domestic programs, the House debated funding for the Department of Transportation, which administers the airport money. Final action on the legislation is expected later this week.

The funding announced yesterday will pay for the rehabilitation of 8,600 feet of the Tinian airport runway to maintain the structural integrity of the pavement and to minimize foreign object debris.

The Tinian International Airport is federally designated as a nonhub primary airport. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors & caregivers support meeting on Sept. 14

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the monthly support meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017, starting at 5:30pm, at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Class of 1987 gears up for reunion

The Class of 1987 will be having its 30th-year class reunion on Sept. 23. The reunion is open to any CNMI Class of 1987 graduate, regardless of which high school they graduated from. A Mass in honor of departed classmates will be held at the San Antonio Church on Sept. 23, 2017, at 4pm. The reunion will follow immediately after the Mass, from 5:30pm to 10pm, at the Surf Club (beach side) in Chalan Kanoa, the former Pacific Gardenia Sunset Bar and Grill. To purchase a reunion ticket or to get more information, send an email to cnmiclassof87@gmail.com or join the CNMI Class of '87 Facebook for updates on the reunion event and/or to request for ticket. ***(PR)***

DPL

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CNMI COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC LAND USE PLAN UPDATE FOR ROTA, TINIAN, SAIPAN, AND THE NORTHERN ISLANDS

A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

The Department of Public Lands (DPL) has recently retained SSFM CNMI, LLC along with their sub-consultants, Chris Hart & Partners, Inc. and John M. Knox & Associates, Inc., to update the CNMI's Public Land Use Plan in order to satisfy Public Law 15-02. This effort is intended to incorporate the public's interests as well as government agencies and groups representing commercial interests.

The first of two public hearings regarding the CNMI Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update for Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands have been scheduled for each municipality as follows:

1) Municipality of Rota
   a. Date – Monday, September 18, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Rota Mayor's Office Conference Hall, Rota
2) Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
   a. Date – Tuesday, September 19, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria, Tinian
3) Municipality of Saipan
   a. Date – Wednesday, September 20, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe, Saipan
4) Municipality of the Northern Islands
   a. Date – Thursday, September 21, 2017
   b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
   c. Location – Northern Islands Mayor's Office, Bldg. 1345, Capitol Hill, Saipan

Comments on the Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update may be submitted orally or in writing at any of the scheduled public hearings. Persons unable to attend, including off-island residents, may download a stakeholder survey form from (http://www.dpl.gov.mp/land-use-plan-resources/) and submit it to rreyes@ssfmcnmillc.com and jhart@chpmaui.com by September 29, 2017 to ensure that your interests are heard and considered. After the public hearings, all comments and feedback from the public will be compiled for incorporation into the updated public land use plan. Therefore, the public is encouraged to attend any of the scheduled public hearings. Before finalization of the plan update, there will be a second public hearing for all the municipalities mentioned above. Information will follow.

If you have any questions regarding the public hearings, please contact SSFM CNMI at (670) 233-7770.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
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E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu • Website: www.marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 17-008
JANITORIAL SERVICES

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Housekeeping and Cleaning Services for the As Terlaje Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Tuesday, Aug 30th, 2017 between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 2:00 p.m., September 29, 2017, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:

/s/Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Manager

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DORIS M. DE VILLA, Petitioner vs. CHRISTIAN B. DE VILLA, Respondent) CD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-0375) SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PO Box 505920 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 18th day of August, 2017.

/s/ Clerk of Court

DPW done with six projects

The Technical Services Division of the Department of Public Works recently closed out six major projects.

Public Works Secretary James Ada said that road improvements as well as building renovations for government offices have been completed.

"There are still several ongoing rehabilitation projects, as well as road and drainage construction on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. In previous years, we began and completed several islandwide upgrades and today we are pleased to complete six more major improvement projects," Ada said.

That includes renovation of the Women's Affairs Office on Capital Hill, which was completed in early July, the renovation of Building 1223 for the CNMI Women's Association, and the roof and wall repair of the 4H building in Susupe.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, government agencies and departments have been able to rehabilitate dilapidated buildings on Capital Hill for official use.

"For many years we've seen the abandonment of buildings on [Capital] Hill, which have posed many safety risks but now, with the help of grant funding and the improvement of government resources, rehabilitation of these buildings is increasing. We hope to see in the near future the full utilization of the buildings in the area which should improve efficiency and savings in the long-term," Torres said.

Road improvements to Gaogao Drive in Kagman and Nativo Drive in San Vicente have also been completed.

"These road improvement and rehabilitation projects are just a few major highlights this year, with many more in the coming months. The completion of the Chalan Kanoa drainage improvement on Texas Road in mid-May was another success and is pending close-out. We really thank our community for their patience with the many road improvement projects as we move forward with much needed infrastructure developments," Ada said. ***(PR)***

Saipan now has college prep academy

Saipan finally has its first independent college advising service.

The Saipan College Prep Academy is run by Keith Tessen, who has 15 years of experience in college advising as the long-time college counselor at Saipan International School.

Tessen has been SIS' college adviser since the day the SIS high school first opened. Over those 15 years, he has helped many students get into their dream schools, including Ivy League schools, Williams College, Carnegie Mellon University, and many more.

Last year 10 percent of SIS graduates were accepted into Ivy League schools, and other members of last year's senior class enrolled in the University of California at Berkeley, Boston University, Emory University, Rutgers University, and Pepperdine University.

In addition to college advising for high school seniors, SCPA will offer college prep courses for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors as well. These courses will be designed to introduce younger students to such topics as the different types of colleges and universities in America, how to choose colleges to apply to, how to research a college or university, financial aid, extracurricular activities, and standardized tests such as the SAT, ACT, and TOEFL.

As a former professional writer and editor for ACT and other companies, Tessen also offers essay writing courses for middle school and high school students. The courses will help students learn how to write effective persuasive, narrative, descriptive, and expository essays. Juniors and seniors will get a great deal of practice writing college application essays. Tessen has edited more than 1,500 college application essays over the years for SIS seniors.

Tessen has a master's degree in American History and has spent 15 years teaching the Advanced Placement U.S. History course. Students who are interested in possibly earning college credit by passing this AP course can sign up for the class at SCPA.

SCPA also offers a supervised quiet study room at SIS for students. Ellen Choi, who speaks both English and Korean, will be supervising the students and offering help in their studies.

Students and parents who wish to obtain more information about this unique academy can call Choi at 285-1669 or email Tessen at keithallentessen@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

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MVA promotes NMI at dive expo in Beijing

Presenting the public and diving fans with various tourism products above and below water, the Marianas Visitors Authority joined the 2017 Asian Dive Expo Beijing Ocean Week on Aug. 31, 2017, at China International Exhibition Center.

The Marianas has become one of the world's top diving resorts with complex underwater terrain, abundant tropical ocean life, historical war relics, and more than 60 world-class dive sites around three unique islands.

For example, the waters of Rota with 50-200m visibility are recognized as having some of the best visibility in Micronesia.

"The Marianas have some of the world's best diving resources, and each year, nearly 50 percent of Chinese tourists choose snorkeling or diving products when visiting here," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "With the help of platforms like ADEX Beijing Ocean Week, we hope to enhance the public's understanding of our diving and tourism environment in China and attract more domestic tourists and diving enthusiasts to visit Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to fully enjoy the beauty of these islands."

The 2017 Asian Dive Expo Beijing Ocean Week opened on Aug. 31, 2017, at the China International Exhibition Center. The Marianas Visitors Authority participated to promote the Marianas. MVA

An additional feature of ADEX was the participation of longtime Saipan resident Li Ningning, the first Chinese-speaking female AIDA instructor and the first and only female AIDA master instructor from China.

Li, who has lived on Saipan for 18 years, shared her wealth of diving and teaching experience with the traveling public.

The Marianas is the only American territory offering Chinese tourists visa-free entry policy, which has greatly benefited the tourism industry. In addition to existing non-stop flights from Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, and Hong Kong, more than two dozen other cities in all parts of China have connections to the Marianas. ***(MVA)***

The 2017 Asian Dive Expo Beijing Ocean Week at China International Exhibition Center allowed the Marianas Visitors Authority to share information about diving resources in the Marianas. MVA

Li Ningning, the only female AIDA master instructor in China, shares about her experience living and working in the Marianas during the 2017 Asian Dive Expo Beijing on Aug. 31, 2017. MVA

UOG gets $299,976 National Science Foundation grant

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) announced yesterday that the National Science Foundation has awarded Guam $299,976 in federal grant assistance.

The University of Guam has been awarded $299,976 from the National Science Foundation for growing STEM engagement and participation in Native Pacific Islander communities.

The federal grant assistance will be used to fund UOG's pilot project, "Growing STEM" to increase Native Pacific Islander representation in STEM enterprise, especially environmental sciences.

The Growing STEM project will be led by the UOG Center for Island Sustainability, UOG Sea Grant Program, and the Guam EPSCoR Program.

Dr. John Peterson, Dr. Austin Shelton, Else Demeulenaere, and Dr. Cheryl Sangueza will serve as lead investigators.

The program will include summer internships for high school students, undergraduate and graduate research opportunities through UOG's Grow Plant Nursery and the Humatak Community Foundation Heritage House.

It will also include STEM professional development activities to be offered through conference participation and student research presentations in venues such as the Guam Islandwide Science Fair and UOG Island Sustainability Conference.

"This grant is a great example of the University of Guam's impact on our island and its important role in developing future local professionals and problem solvers," said UOG president Robert Underwood.

"We have an exciting opportunity to put our students on a pathway to attain doctoral degrees in science," said Dr. Austin Shelton, co-principal investigator. "Everything is centered around practical scientific research experiences aimed at improving the health of our land and ocean."

"I applaud the University of Guam for pursuing these federal funds to help our people pursue careers in STEM and engage in culturally relevant research and science application," said Bordallo. "I have always been a strong proponent of STEM, which is critical to ensuring that our students have the skills necessary for their future careers. These funds will help break down the barriers our island community faces with entering and participating in science fields. I look forward to following the work of the University of Guam's as they continue to make strides for Guam and the region in STEM." ***(PR)***

Culture-based wellbeing, sexuality curriculum for Chuukese, Chamorro communities in Guam

MANGILAO, Guam—In an effort to reduce the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases in Chuukese and Chamorro communities, the Office of Minority Health Resource Center designed a culturally relevant curriculum distinct to each community. The authors of the curriculum will be facilitating a training next week, Sept. 18 to Sept. 22 at the Guam Museum.

The training, which is hosted by the Office of Minority Health in collaboration with Guam's Alternative Lifestyle Association, will focus specifically on the Chuukese component of the curriculum.

The curriculum will be introduced to the community at large on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 9:30am in the Guam Museum's Indoor Theater.

The curriculum, titled "Navigating Personal Wellbeing & Sexuality: A Facilitator's Guide for Working with Chuukese and Chamorro Communities," is a culture-based resource for peer educators, teachers, counselors, social workers, community and traditional leaders, and healthcare advocates who educate about personal wellness, sexuality, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases in Chuukese and Chamorro communities.

It includes 10 lessons that address culturally distinct attitudes, myths, beliefs, and human behavior.

» Curriculum authors to lead training at Guam Museum next week

It also aims to explore barriers rooted in specific beliefs and attitudes that may place individuals at greater risk of contracting HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The authors, Dr. Lisa Linda Natividad and Dr. Timmy de la Cruz, worked with experts with in-depth knowledge of Chuukese and Chamorro cultures and history. Their efforts in developing these lessons were guided and informed by community leaders, educators, parents, youth, and members of the LGBT community in Chuuk, Guåhan, and Saipan.

The University of Guam Press, with a grant from the Office of Minority Health Resource Center, published the curriculum and accompanying participant workbooks for both Chuukese and Chamorro communities.

Next week's training will cover all 10 lessons in the curriculum and provide participants with culturally appropriate tools to address sex, human sexuality, sexual orientation and personal wellbeing practices that reflect Chuukese worldviews, values, histories, attitudes, beliefs and learning styles.

The five-day training costs $40 and includes lunch, a copy of the curriculum, a participant workbook and a certificate of trainer status. Participants may register by contacting Flo at 969-5483 or emailing galaguam.va@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

SNILD appropriates $1M to Saipan precincts

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation passed last Friday a bill that appropriates $1 million to numerous entities and projects across the five precincts on Saipan.

House Local Bill 20-36 S1 will benefit 23 entities and projects across Saipan.

The Saipan Mayor's Office will get the largest share of the bunch, being appropriated $220,000 for the purchase of a new tractor/boom mower.

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc. received $80,000; the Commonwealth zoning board received $75,000 for "their enforcement personnel and operation"; and $50,000 each will go to the Carolinian Affairs Office, Micronesian Legal Services Corp., and the Latte Training Academy.

A total of $34,000 was appropriated to the Department of Finance, Division of Procurement and Supply for the purchase of a new vehicle; $25,000 each was appropriated to the Civil Service Commission, the CNMI Drug Court for the purchase of a new vehicle, the Commonwealth Women's Association for renovation, and the Department of Labor for the procurement of a vehicle; $20,000 each was appropriated to the CNMI Salvation Army and the Department of Commerce.

The expenditure authorities for about half of the appropriations are the Secretary of Finance, while the other half is the Secretary of the Department of Public Works.

H.L.B. 20-36 S1 now goes to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for signing. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

Triple J names marketing manager for Saipan

MariaValentina Haberman has been named the new marketing manager for its CNMI Triple J group corporate operations.

Haberman used to lead the marketing and public relation department of Hyatt Regency Saipan for two years.

She joins Triple J Saipan, Inc. with well over 10 years of professional experience in strategic marketing, management, and business development.

Haberman holds a master's in Business Administration and Management from Chaminade University of Honolulu and a bachelor's in Elementary Education, with concentration in Early Childhood Development from University of Hawaii at Manoa.

She is the PR director for Stellar Marianas, a nonprofit pageant and talent group sharing talent, empowerment, leadership and achievement of the Marianas.

She is also a member of the events team of Marianas Young Professionals, MyPros, and an instructor at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute under the hotel and restaurant program.

"A family corporation, Triple J Saipan, Inc. focuses on our motto, 'Customers First.' Valentina's technical savvy, customer focus and persuasive communication will ensure our efforts are transparent to those who matter the most—our customers. Her skill set spans all aspects of marketing, and we're really excited that she has joined our team," said Robert H. Jones, Triple J chairman & CEO.

For any and all community service, advertising and marketing needs, contact Haberman at marketing@triplej-saipan.com.

Triple J Enterprises Inc. has operated for over three decades. It has several operations, which include the Triple J Auto Group, Triple J Rentals, Five Star Wholesale Foods, Outback Steakhouse in Guam, and Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., Surf Club, Tony Roma's, Capricciosa, Great Harvest Bread Co. and Truong's Vietnamese Restaurant on Saipan. ***(PR)***

'PSS 4th graders to get field trips to AMP'

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) announced yesterday that 766 fourth grade students from Saipan public school will be taking field trips to the American Memorial Park over the course of this school year. The field trips are made possible by a $7,600 grant from the National Park Foundation, as part of its Open OutDoors for Kids program, which supports "Every Kid in a Park."

The National Park Foundation, chartered by Congress, is the official charitable partner of the National Park Service.

"Field trips that get students out of the classroom and allow them to experience their community first-hand are an important part of our children's education," Sablan said. "We have some amazing resources [on] our islands, but not every child gets the opportunity to see them.

"Through the Every Kid in a Park program, fourth-graders will be able to engage with the natural environment at American Memorial Park, which includes not only the beaches, but wetlands and mangrove forest, and is home to endangered species. They will be able to learn about the scientific research going on at the park."

"And, of course, students will also learn about the World War II battles here, how important they were to world history, and how those battles affected our own families, and took the lives of so many of our people."

Through the National Park Foundation's grants, more than 200,000 fourth graders nationwide will be going on field trips to national parks this school year.

"I can still remember the excitement of exploring my first national park as a kid and it made me want to discover more," said National Park Foundation president Will Shafroth.

"I'm thrilled that our National Park Foundation grants make it possible for hundreds of thousands of kids to experience the wonder of parks for the first time, sparking a lifelong love for national parks."

Sablan is a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, which is responsible for the National Park Service and America's national parks. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-027

ROOF REPLACEMENT AT DRUM STORAGE AREA POWER PLANT NO. 1 SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of roofing material at the Drum Storage Berm, Power Plant 1, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the removal of corroded roofing and its replacement with new material. Electrical work for installation of lighting and power outlets at the berm is also requested for this task.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **90 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **September 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-027 Roof Replacement Drum Storage Area Power Plant No. 1 Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 29, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and Max Simian, CUC Technical Manager for Oil – via email max.simian@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-037

CONSULTANCY SERVICES - REPLACEMENT OF 1 ENGINE SYSTEM - SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the Consultancy Services including procurement support, project management, engineering and design services of the Replacement of 1 Engine System (No. 8 –10 to13 MW, capacity) at CUC Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Consultant shall have a minimum of ten (10) years of verifiable experience and a track record of designing, modification and installation of diesel fuel or dual fuel power plants, among other attributes noted in the RFP documents.

The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission CPUC.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **September 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal and hence the attendance of the pre-proposal meeting and site visit is mandatory.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-17-037– Consultancy Services - Replacement of 1 Engine System"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **September 29, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 20, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. , CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to William Gilmore, CUC Deputy Executive Director via email william.gilmore@cugov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Utility Coordinator for Power via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Quick action on Hurricane Harvey relief itself a relief

Congress' quick agreement on a bill providing $15.25 billion in aid for victims of Hurricane Harvey—which was promptly signed into law by President Donald Trump—is a welcome sign that dysfunction in Washington isn't going to get in the way of helping the hundreds of thousands of people whose lives have been turned upside-down by the giant storm.

Early last week, a relief measure seemed likely to get caught up in never-ending fights over raising the government debt ceiling and approving a short-term federal budget. Many Republicans objected to Democrats using the needs of Harvey's victims to win concessions on these issues, but when the tactic didn't faze Trump, the path was clear for quick action. The Senate passed the relief measure with a 80-17 vote on Thursday and the House followed suit on a 316-90 vote Friday. Congress should be poised to provide similar relief if Hurricane Irma is as hard on Florida as many fear.

Meanwhile, private fundraising to help Hurricane Harvey's victims continues. On Friday, all five living former presidents—Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama—released a video asking for Americans to help all they can. Houston Texans star J.J. Watts' Houston Flood Relief Fund was at $29.6 million and counting Friday afternoon. The American Red Cross and many other groups are also collecting donations.

This shows America at its finest. Our nation has many problems and many critics. But as reflected in the response to Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Katrina and other disasters, we remain resilient, compassionate and eager to help those in need.

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How 9/11 permanently changed us

By WALTER SHAPIRO
CQ-Roll Call

Roll Call columnist Walter Shapiro is a veteran of Politics Daily, USA Today, Time, Newsweek *and* The Washington Post.

The front page of *The New York Times* from the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, conjures up a world both familiar and distant. The lead story highlights talk of tax cuts on Capitol Hill while a major feature conveys the worries of public school officials that dress codes are being flouted: "The days when torn jeans tested the limits are now a fond memory."

In this era before iPhones and Androids, the *Times* headlined a page-one article about Paula Zahn's new CNN contract: "In a Nation of Early Risers, Morning TV Is a Hot Market." *The Times* front page also brooded about continuing threats like nuclear smuggling in Asia and the depressing verities of foreign policy: "Mideast Still Roiling."

The 16th anniversary of the day that the Twin Towers were toppled, the Pentagon was attacked and an airliner plowed into the ground in Pennsylvania is a middle-distance commemoration. Enough time has passed so that a grave silence has replaced the anguished tears. Yet almost everyone over the age of 21 can recount where they were when they learned that America was suddenly at war with a shadowy enemy.

It is a telling indication of our unhealed wounds that it is difficult to think of a major novel, movie or dramatic TV series that has tackled 9/11 as its central theme. In contrast, popular culture during the 1950s was dominated by World War II retrospectives like the 1953 (*From Here to Eternity*) and 1957 (*The Bridge on the River Kwai*) Oscar-winning best pictures.

An easy explanation is that World War II ended with the Japanese surrender aboard the battleship USS *Missouri*. But the 2011 death of Osama bin Laden brought with it neither peace in Afghanistan nor a lessening of the worldwide terrorist threat.

The passage of time has made some moments that seemed minor in the post-9/11 blur glow in memory. George W. Bush visited an Islamic center on Sept. 17 and declared, "America counts millions of Muslims amongst our citizens, and Muslims make an incredibly valuable contribution to our country. ... And they need to be treated with respect. In our anger and emotion, our fellow Americans must treat each other with respect."

An inescapable cliche in the days after Sept. 11 was the refrain that Americans had to continue some ordinary aspect of life (taking airplanes, buying major appliances or entering crowded movie theaters) "or else the terrorists will have won."

And 16 years later, things do appear normal on the surface. We visit the dentist, get obsessed with TV series and plan our futures as if 9/11 never happened. But the fears of terrorism have left a permanent imprint on our psyches.

A revealing June Gallup Poll found that 38 percent of Americans say they are less likely to attend large events and 26 percent are less likely to enter skyscrapers because of terrorism fears. Surprisingly, according to Gallup, fewer Americans (32 percent) were skittish about going to such large gatherings in November 2001, two months after the attacks.

There is a political component to these numbers—Republicans are more fearful than Democrats by every measure.

Most dramatically, 57 percent of Republicans compared to 35 percent of Democrats say they are "very worried" or "somewhat worried" that they or a family member will be a victim of terrorism. Needless to say, Democrats are disproportionately likely to live in major cities like New York that are more obvious terrorist targets than, say, Enid, Okla.

Our daily life has changed in other ways that we barely notice, but that would seem obvious to our 20th-century counterparts.

Seeing lethally armed military personnel guarding our airports and train stations is now a routine occurrence. These days, we are forced to produce our driver's licenses several times a day—and rarely do these demands have anything to do with our ability to operate a motor vehicle. And the right to privacy, once an ingrained part of the frontier spirit, is constantly being eroded in the name of security.

These are trade-offs that most Americans would accept in return for our 16 years of freedom from a terrorist attack anything like Sept. 11. But popular consensus should not blind us to the reality that we have made decisions in the name of security that earlier generations of Americans might find hard to grasp.

Another half-forgotten change over the past 16 years is the building of a metaphorical moat between ordinary Americans and their government.

It wasn't too long ago that security was light in most government buildings—and you could wander down corridors without an escort. While there is no easily available quantitative information (for security reasons, of course), many more government officials below the level of president and vice president now travel with a protective cordon of armed guards.

Perhaps the biggest transformation in the past 16 years is the growth of a climate of mistrust in America. Of course, there were bitter partisan differences in the 1990s. In fact, it is hard to top a Republican House voting to impeach a Democratic president.

Conspiracy theories have flourished in the 21st century in part because America was victimized in 2001 by the worst conspir-

See 9/11 on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Estoriata Ni Natibu

Si Professora Laura M. Torres Souder ha soyu` pattisipasion tautau-ta gi matuge` estorian iya Marianas. Propiu na sineyu` pot rason na debi ta tutuhun pumulan yan kumorihe mantuge` siha pot hita mismu.

Apmam de ta aksepta sin kuestion haf` tinige` niha pot tano`ta achog lache siha na infotmasion. Propiu i tiempu na tafañaunau pot proteksion haf` iyota. Debi i infotmasion piot gi bandan kuttura faktu yan dinanche!

Dispues, tat nasion ni humatme iya Marianas ti kume destrosia liñguahita yan modun linala`ta. Nahuñg na insuttu kontra i natibu!

Debi tafan matatñga yan manatma haf` propiu yan dinanche gi todu matuge` pot natibu. Propiu sa` tat mas kapas gi bandan kuttura yan tradision ke mismu tautau este siha na petlas.

Ni kuantu na mauleg intension, ni ñgai`an `nai u danche haf` gaige gi matata gi bandan kinemprende haf` iyota. Pues atan sa` ni unabes `nai mafaisen i natibu haf` hinassoña yan sentimentoña.

Muñga na un` bulacheru na marinerun Magellan para u fatta na kesnuda i natibu. Na ti guaha palabra tat kumu "magagu" gi finu` Chamorro? Siña usun sadi` lau ti kesnudu!

Gi karera kulan siha fumotma haf` kuttura yan tradision tanu`. No señor! Gaige i dos asuntu mau`udai kabales gi tinatten rasan indihinau. Para un` komprende i asuntu debi ha` un` tautau isla! Si Yuus Maase` Professora Souder nui amtau na sineyu` pattisipasion pot haf` inyun natibu!

Antigu: I maguadog makina dispues masomug te`lañg antigu na mañaita gi halum kahita yan aplacha` na sagan katga dañkulu na disrespetu gi ti man-achaiguata. Este na heñu sumen na`dimalas gi kareran mahatsan fasilidat casino. Hombre ke unu dos biahe ta bota "no", un` sentimentu ni ti marespeta ni mansabiun hegsu` I Deni`.

Ti komprendiyun hinassun man-sabiun lañga` ni kumonduse halum un` operasion bisnis ni para u destrosia petmanente kinalamten familia siha guine. Afañelus, asegurau yan anaku` dadalag este na destrosiu ni inakompapaña usun amot binenu. Na ti magahet na megai esta na familia man-dinestrosia ni huegun poker? Mañgge konsensian miyu guine na asuntun linahyan?

Destrosiu: Gi 1974, huli`e sais na bus ni manginen Las Vegas mana` fanunog pasaheru siha giya Los Angeles. Tat ti matachoñg gi kantun chalan sa` ha lachai umapostan ñaihon kontodu kareta yan gima` familia gi huegon casino giya Vegas.

Ayu `nai huli`e matan pasaheru hokog esperansa gi ha`anen niha gi hilu` didog na sinetsut lau atrasau. Man-namase` sa` ni sientemus taya` sopbla.

Asuntun bisiu (addiction) gi maseha hafa makat ta komprende estake gatdun hau gi halum mutuñg na fache` sisonyan diskuidu. Poreso na maulegña un` chagu`e ke un` batbaruye destrosiu na bisiu. Cha`mu chachansa ha`anen familia-mu.

**Dinaña`:** Dimas de kada isla u petsige kantaña, mas kase propiu yangin tana setbe talento-ta tumuge` sunidun dinaña natibu, punta pot punta. Mauleg uma-emfesisa pot tano`ta yan tautau-ta `nai mandaña todu kumu unu!

I Hawaiian gai kanta "Hawaii/Aloha" ni makakanta gi todu okasion maseha manu gi inetnon tautau niha. Sumen bonitu na sunidu kontodu i palabra siha. Magahet na esta na`fugu `an un` ekuñgog famaguon eskuela siha makanta bonitu pot tanu` niha.

Haf` impottansiaña i kanta ni dinanche? Ha sedi natibu dumaña gi hilu` hinimiddi `nai man-agu`ot kanai unu yan otru. Estague` mina mauleg tana setbe talento-ta kumetuge` un` kanta pot tano`ta yan tautau-ta.

Kuttura: Pa`gu na mes maseñala kumu tiempun ma-abiban kuttura yan tradision natibu guine sihe na petlas. Asuntu na

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

makat un` pega gi papet `sino mamueba para otru lugat sa` ti buttu soluke espiritun linala`.

Yangin para un` fatinase planu, haf` ennau na planu yan kau magahet na satbasion gi manala`la` kuttura? Kau gai tinatte hau fotmat yan fitme na estudiu yan ekspirensia pot kuttura yan tradision komunidat isla? Sin ansianu yan fitme na kinimite pues puru fabulas de chispas huntan pot asuntun indihinau.

Para ta pesa kinemprenden miyu pot kuttura: haf` signifikasioña lemlem tautau (minachum atdau) fuera de maliñgu gi sanlagu? Haf` na usu i pigua`, pupulu, afog yan amaska? Haf` na difirensia nina`en minagof yan ika? Fuera de respetu haf` un` kustumbre ni gaige gi todu atmos kuttura guine ni umesgaihon amtau na amesta?

Lastromu: `Nai malofan i deñgdeñg gi hatdin ha pega gi santatte lastroña. Anog manu `nai malofan yan malag manu. Kulan parehu este yan `nai ta chachalane i manatatte para u asegurau hinanau niha.

Siña lokue` ta polu kumu rekueddu para i famaguon-ta i lastro-ta. Haf` pinegamu na ma`ug para i famaguon-mu siha? Un` asuntu ni mauleg in` atan asolas pot i manatatte na famaguon-ta.

Tighten the North Korea sanctions. It's the only way

North Korea isn't stopping. Whether the powerful nuclear device it detonated earlier this month really is compatible with an intercontinental ballistic missile matters far less than the fact that the Kim Jong Un regime now stands on the verge of nuclear breakout. Simply put, Kim is ever closer to being able to kill millions of people outside North Korea, not least Americans.

Which is precisely the message behind Pyongyang's repeated missile tests—with more threatened—and Kim's bluster barrage over the last several months.

Kim is driven by a systemic need to overturn the unfavorable equation on the Korean peninsula: The backward totalitarian North versus a prosperous and pleasant South. South Korea's mere existence poses an existential threat to Pyongyang. Kim's ultimate goal is to evict U.S. troops from the South through nuclear blackmail, then, through graduated escalation, isolate and bully risk-averse Seoul. Pyongyang's latest actions take it a leap closer to achieving this goal.

The dangerous situation we're facing was entirely predictable. For more than 20 years, policymakers of various political colors on both sides of the Pacific have treated North Korea's growing nuclear and missile threat with condescension buttressed by dithery diplomacy. Seoul and Washington have alternated between halfhearted sanctions and sending billions of dollars of aid into Pyongyang's coffers, at times even simultaneously sanctioning North Korea and subsidizing it. The effect has been wildly successful—for North Korea. Pyongyang has yet to see any advantage in giving up its carrot-and-stick nuclear posturing.

Yet not all is lost. As U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley said this month at the Security Council, the "incremental approach" and "half measures" of the past must be replaced with the "strongest sanctions." However, if the sanctions are strong only on paper, nothing will change. The U.S. and its allies have to invest time and resources to enforce them. Violators must be met with biting financial consequences. The U.S. is uniquely positioned to punish violators, thanks to the strength of the dollar.

The baffling fact is that the United States has never exerted the full force of its sanction power against Pyongyang. Until 2016, U.S. sanctions against North Korea were weaker in kind and degree than those against Sudan, Zimbabwe, Cuba and the Democratic Republic of Congo—states that pose no national security threat to the U.S. They were also far weaker than sanctions against Russia, Iran, Iraq, Syria and the Balkan states.

Even since 2016, Washington has held back from doing all it could do against North Korea. Self-deterred by exaggerated fears of more North Korean provocation and Chinese economic retaliation, the U.S. has yet to fine the largest of the Chinese banks and state companies that are in blatant violation of U.S. laws and U.N. Security Council resolutions regarding Pyongyang.

And yet money talks, as we saw in the curtailing of Iran's nuclear ambitions. As the U.S. fined international companies and banks that continued to do prohibited business with Iran, Tehran—increasingly isolated—made the decision to return to negotiations. In just one example, the U.S. fined France's largest bank, BNP Paribas, $8.9 billion for violating Iran sanctions (and those against Sudan and Cuba as well). The bank pleaded guilty, accepted the fine and withdrew from its Iran ties rather than be blocked out of the U.S. dollar system. In June, the U.S. put pressure on the Bank of Dandong, a small Chinese bank that serves as a dollar conduit for North Korean activities, but no fine or threatened block of the magnitude of the BNP Paribas action has been imposed on Chinese entities.

Through serious and sustained financial constriction, Washington could compel Kim to modify his behavior—freeze his nuclear and missile programs, open up his country and dismantle his gulags. Full denuclearization would not happen until Kim, under financial stress, could no longer placate his generals and faced the specter of regime collapse. Throughout the process, Washington must communicate to Kim and his cronies that there is a way out. Reform or abdicate. (Posh exile isn't what Kim Jong Un deserves, but it would be a small price to pay for liberating the Korean peninsula.)

Pyongyang, although far from suicidal, needs to menace Washington if it has any hope of prevailing over Seoul. If the

By SUNG-YOON LEE
Los Angeles Times

Sung-Yoon Lee is the Kim Koo-Korea Foundation professor of Korean studies and an assistant professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

U.S. were to cave in and abandon South Korea, nothing would be resolved and the risk of another war started by the North would only increase. (The last time the U.S. withdrew troops from South Korea, in 1949, there was war the next year; it claimed tens of thousands of American lives. This time, nuclear weapons could be in play.)

Full-throttled financial sanctions—in the face of obfuscation, evasion, provocations and disingenuous negotiations—are America's best and only option, short of military action. Temporary deals followed by premature relaxation of sanctions would only bring fake peace to the Korean peninsula and buy Pyongyang time and money. Give real peace—and an end to the Kim regime—a chance.

9/11

From Page 10

acy imaginable—19 terrorists pretending to be ordinary passengers forcibly seizing four airplanes. And faith in Washington was undermined by the government's failure to prevent the worst attack since Pearl Harbor.

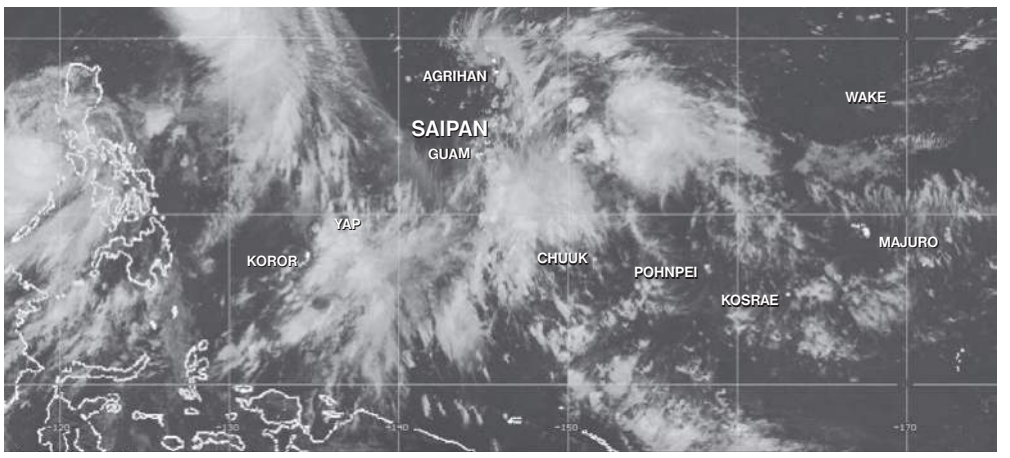
This Monday let us offer the innocent victims of 9/11—ordinary people whose only mistake was going to work or boarding an airplane—the honor and respect that their memories deserve. At the same time, let us avoid self-congratulatory rhetoric about how America remains unchanged after the wrenching events on a sunny day in September 2001.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 11:34 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper level low and surface trough to the east of the Marianas will move over the area through Wednesday. These features will bring showers and thunderstorms. The guidance has the upper low moving across this morning into the afternoon, while a surface trough approaches the region. When the surface trough moves over the area tonight into tomorrow, an upper low moves over the area. So, it remains to be seen if this will be enough to create scattered showers over the entire region, just parts of it, or if we end up with more of the isolated variety. So, did not make any significant changes to the forecast, but there looks to be more rain around today and into Wednesday then there has been the last few days. Then there looks to be enough moisture and potentially an upper low to the north to keep at least some isolated showers and thunder through the end of the week before high pressure build in for the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼°F
Auckland	Showers	64° / 55°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	86° / 66°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 75°
London	Mostly Sunny	61° / 46°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	77° / 65°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	57° / 48°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
New York	Cloudy	78° / 68°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	84° / 64°
Paris	Rain	68° / 52°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	79° / 68°
Rome	Sunny	81° / 61°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	80° / 64°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	66° / 57°
Seoul	Sunny	81° / 57°
Tokyo	Showers	81° / 66°
Washington, DC	Showers	83° / 67°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
7:04 AM	LOW TIDE	0.01
1:57 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.64
7:20 PM	LOW TIDE	1.07
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:20 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:19 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:18 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:18 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:17 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:18 PM	-
Thursday	12:05 AM	1:17 PM	-
Friday	1:02 AM	2:15 PM	-
Saturday	2:01 AM	3:11 PM	-
Sunday	3:01 AM	4:04 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
ZE582	3:40am	7:00am	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
ZE581	9:00pm	2:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	3:00pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Field of Heroes - Saipan

PHOTOS By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

A Saipan Department of Public Safety team performs a 21-gun salute during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Saipan American Memorial Park.

The Kagman High School Color Guard posts the flags during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Saipan American Memorial Park.

The Music of the Marianas Association performs the national anthem during the Field Of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Saipan American Memorial Park.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, far right, Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, and Department of Public Safety and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services representatives bow their heads during the invocation part of the Field of Heroes ceremony on Monday at the Saipan American Memorial Park.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang was the guest speaker during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Saipan Memorial Park.

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan delivers his remarks during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the American Memorial Park.

Saipan first responders pose for a picture during the Field of Heroes Ceremony last Monday at the Saipan Memorial Park.

Field of Heroes - Tinian

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services on Tinian performs a water canon salute during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas delivers his speech during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

Tanholdings Corp. president Jerry Tan, far right, poses with the Tinian High School student 9/11 essay-writing contest winner last Monday during the Field of Heroes ceremony at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

The master of ceremonies welcomes people to the second annual Field of Heroes tribute ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

A Department of Public Safety team on Tinian performs a 21-gun salute during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

Tinian first responders pose for a picture during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

The Tinian Junior/Senior High School students offer a special tribute during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services color guard posts the flags during the Field of Heroes ceremony last Monday at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

Business

Apple to launch $1K iPhone

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Just how much are you willing to pay for the latest iPhone? How does $1,000 sound?

On Tuesday, Apple is expected to unveil a dramatically redesigned iPhone at the first product event it's holding at its new spaceship-like headquarters in Cupertino, California. True to its secretive ways, Apple hasn't confirmed what it will be announcing, though a financial forecast issued last month telegraphed something significant in the pipeline.

The souped-up "anniversary" iPhone, which would come a decade after Apple's late co-founder Steve Jobs unveiled the first version, could also cost twice what the original iPhone did. It would set a new price threshold for any smartphone intended to appeal to a mass market.

AP

In this Monday, June 5, 2017, file photo, a person takes a photo of an Apple logo before an announcement of new products at the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference in San Jose, Calif.

WHAT A THOUSAND BUCKS WILL BUY

Various leaks have indicated the new phone will feature a sharper display, a so-called OLED screen that will extend from edge to edge of the device, thus eliminating the exterior gap, or "bezel," that currently surrounds most phone screens.

It may also boast facial recognition technology for unlocking the phone and wireless charging. A better camera is a safe bet, too.

All those features have been available on other smartphones that sold for less than $1,000, but Apple's sense of design and marketing flair has a way of making them seem irresistible—and worth the extra expense.

"Apple always seems to take what others have done and do it even better," said Carolina Milanesi, an analyst with Creative Strategies.

WHY PHONES COST MORE, NOT LESS

Apple isn't the only company driving up smartphone prices. Market leader Samsung Electronics just rolled out its Galaxy Note 8 with a starting price of $930.

The trend reflects the increasing sophistication of smartphones, which have been evolving into status symbols akin to automobiles. In both cases, many consumers appear willing to pay a premium price for luxury models that take them where they want to go in style.

"Calling it a smartphone doesn't come close to how people use it, view it and embrace it in their lives," said Debby Ruth, senior vice president of the consumer research firm Magid. "It's an extension of themselves, it's their entry into the world, it's their connection to their friends."

From that perspective, it's easy to understand why some smartphones now cost more than many kinds of laptop computers, said technology analyst Patrick Moorhead.

"People now value their phones more than any other device and, in some cases, even more than food and sex," Moorhead said.

Harvey and Irma to slow US economy but rebound should follow

WASHINGTON (AP)—With businesses disrupted, fuel and chemical refineries out of commission and consumers struggling to restore their lives, Hurricanes Harvey and Irma will likely pack a tough double-whammy for the U.S. economy.

Nearly one-fifth of the nation's oil refining capacity has been shut down because of Harvey, and fuel production has dropped sharply as a result, according to Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Consumers will also spend less in the immediate aftermath of the storms. Even those ready to make purchases will face closed storefronts and dark restaurants.

Irma will cause tourists to delay—and in many cases never take—trips to Florida's beaches or Disney World. Chemical refineries have also been closed, reducing the production of plastics.

Damage estimates from the two storms are still early, particularly for Irma. Hurricane Harvey will likely cost up to $108 billion, according to Bank of America Merrill Lynch, which would make it the second-most-expensive hurricane after Katrina.

Mark Zandi, chief economist for Moody's Analytics, estimates that Irma will cause $64 billion to $92 billion in damage.

While the economic toll pales beside the human costs, analysts estimate that the nation's annualized growth rate will be one-half to one full percentage point slower in the July-September quarter than it would otherwise have been.

But repair work, reconstruction and purchases of replacement cars and other goods should provide an offsetting boost later this year and in early 2018.

"Construction activity will rocket in the affected areas," predicted Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics. "Households' spending on building materials, furniture, appliances, and vehicles will all be much higher than otherwise would have been the case."

Catastrophic natural disasters often don't depress the U.S. economy in the long run. The destruction of property reduces the nation's total wealth. But all the rebuilding and restoration work tends to stimulate economic growth in the following months.

The rebuilding can take time. After Hurricane Katrina bashed New Orleans in 2005, it took seven months for home building permits in the city to return to their pre-hurricane levels, according to Goldman Sachs.

Nation

Aircraft carrier is rushed to the hurricane-battered Keys

MIAMI (AP)—Authorities sent an aircraft carrier and other Navy ships to help with search-and-rescue operations in Florida on Monday as a flyover of the hurricane-battered Keys yielded what the governor said were scenes of devastation.

"I just hope everyone survived," Gov. Rick Scott said.

He said boats were cast ashore, water, sewers and electricity were knocked out, and "I don't think I saw one trailer park where almost everything wasn't overturned." Authorities also struggled to clear the single highway connecting the string of islands to the mainland.

The Keys felt Irma's full fury when the storm blew ashore as a Category 4 hurricane Sunday morning with 130 mph (209 kph) winds. How many people in the dangerously exposed, low-lying islands defied evacuation orders and stayed behind was unclear.

As Irma weakened into a tropical storm and finally left Florida on Monday after a run up the entire 400-mile length of the state, the full scale of its destruction was still unknown, in part because of cutoff communications and blocked roads. Monday night, the storm had weakened to a tropical depression near Columbus, Georgia.

Six deaths in Florida have been blamed on Irma, along with three in Georgia and one in South Carolina. At least 35 people were killed in the Caribbean.

Statewide, an estimated 13 million people, or two-thirds of Florida's population, remained without power. That's more than the population of New York and Los Angeles combined. Officials warned it could take weeks for electricity to be restored to everyone.

More than 180,000 people huddled in shelters in the Sunshine State.

"How are we going to survive from here?" asked Gwen Bush, who waded through thigh-deep floodwaters outside her central Florida home to reach National Guard rescuers and get a ride to a shelter. "What's going to happen now? I just don't know."

The governor said it was way too early to put a dollar estimate on the damage.

During its march up Florida's west coast, Irma swamped homes, uprooted trees, flooded streets, snapped miles of power lines and toppled construction cranes.

US marks 9/11 anniversary with resolve, tears and hope

NEW YORK (AP)—Americans commemorated 9/11 on Monday with tear-streaked tributes, a presidential warning to terrorists and appeals from victims' relatives for unity and hope 16 years after the deadliest terrorist attack on U.S. soil.

Looking out at the solemn crowd at ground zero, Debra Epps said she views every day as time to do something to ensure that her brother, Christopher Epps, and thousands of others didn't die in vain.

"What I can say today is that I don't live my life in complacency," she said. "I stand in solidarity that this world will make a change for the better."

Thousands of family members, survivors, rescuers and others gathered for the hourslong reading of victims' names at the World Trade Center, while President Donald Trump spoke at the Pentagon and Vice President Mike Pence addressed an observance at the Flight 93 National Memorial near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Elsewhere, thousands of Americans marked the anniversary with service projects. Volunteer Hillary O'Neill, 16, had her own connection to 9/11: It's her birthdate.

"I always feel a sense of responsibility to give back on the day," O'Neill, of Norwalk, Connecticut, said as she packed up meals in New York City for needy local people and hurricane victims in Texas and Florida.

Nearly 3,000 people were killed when planes hijacked by terrorists hit the trade center, the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville on Sept. 11, 2001, hurling America into a new consciousness of the threat of global terrorism.

Reflecting on a tragedy that still feels immediate to them, victims' relatives thanked first responders and the military, worried for people affected by Hurricane Irma as it continued its destructive path as a tropical storm and pleaded for a return to the sense of cohesiveness that followed the attacks.

Irma
By the numbers in Florida

Category 4
The strength of Irma when it made landfall in Florida with sustained winds of 135 mph

2
The number of times Irma made landfall in Florida - Cudjoe Key in the Florida Keys was first at 9:10 a.m. E.T. Sunday.
The second came at Marco Island around 4 p.m. ET

6.4 Million
People warned to seek shelter, one of the largest U.S. evacuations

30,000
People left the Keys as the storm closed in

220,000
People waited in shelters across Florida

6.5 Million
Homes and businesses across Florida lost power, and utility officials said it will take weeks to restore electricity to everyone

185 mph
Irma's peak wind speed in the Atlantic. Irma was the most powerful hurricane ever recorded in the open Atlantic

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Asia

UN approves watered-down new sanctions vs N. Korea

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. Security Council on Monday unanimously approved new sanctions on North Korea but not the toughest-ever measures sought by the Trump administration to ban all oil imports and freeze international assets of the government and its leader, Kim Jong Un.

The resolution, responding to Pyongyang's sixth and strongest nuclear test explosion on Sept. 3, does ban North Korea from importing all natural gas liquids and condensates. It also bans all textile exports and prohibits any country from authorizing new work permits for North Korean workers—two key sources of hard currency for the northeast Asian nation.

As for energy, it caps Pyongyang's imports of crude oil at the level of the last 12 months, and it limits the import of refined petroleum products to 2 million barrels a year.

The watered-down resolution does not include sanctions that the U.S. wanted on North Korea's national airline and the army.

Nonetheless, U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley told the council after the vote that "these are by far the strongest measures ever imposed on North Korea." But she stressed that "these steps only work if all nations implement them completely and aggressively."

Haley noted that the council was meeting on the 16th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack. In a clear message to North Korean threats to attack the U.S., she said: "We will never forget the lesson that those who have evil intentions must be confronted."

"Today we are saying the world will never accept a nuclear armed North Korea," she said. "We are done trying to prod the regime to do the right thing" and instead are taking steps to prevent it "from doing the wrong thing."

Haley said the U.S. doesn't take pleasure in strengthening sanctions and reiterated that the U.S. does not want war.

"The North Korean regime has not yet passed the point of no return," she said. "If it agrees to stop its nuclear program it can reclaim its future. If it proves it can live in peace, the world will live in peace with it. ... If North Korea continues its dangerous path, we will continue with further pressure."

'Proof' of Rohingya-set fires in Myanmar fails inspection

BANGKOK (AP)—Pointing to the ashes of a destroyed village that was once home to dozens of Rohingya Muslim families, the abbot of a nearby Buddhist monastery insisted he knew who had set it ablaze. It was the Rohingya themselves, he said, and there was photographic evidence to prove it.

"I even tried to stop them," the abbot, Zawtika, told reporters who visited violence-torn northern Rakhine state last week after an explosion of communal violence that has so far compelled a staggering 313,000 Rohingya to flee into neighboring Bangladesh. "I told them not to do that, but it seemed like they wanted to."

Shortly afterward, a local Buddhist resident who is close to the monk, a man named Maung Maung Htwe, shared photos he said he had taken on his mobile phone that showed several people setting fire to the buildings.

The alleged perpetrators could be clearly seen—too clearly for anyone trying to advance the lie that Rohingya were responsible.

Journalists on the trip recognized two of the people in the photos as Hindus from a nearby public school the government officials had brought them to hours earlier. The school was filled with displaced Hindus who said their own homes had been burned by Muslims. An Associated Press reporter interviewed one of them.

Like the monk, the country's government contends that Rohingya insurgents have been burning down their own villages in northern Rakhine as they attacked both majority Buddhists and minority Hindus. The Rohingya, meanwhile, say Myanmar security forces and Buddhist mobs have attacked them and razed their homes in a conflict that the government estimates killed close to 400 people.

Protests hound late Filipino dictator's birthday celebration

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Pro-democracy activists on Monday protested the Philippine president's declaration of a provincial holiday marking the birthday of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, and other steps they said promote a political rehabilitation of his family.

More than 150 people rallied outside the national Heroes' Cemetery in metropolitan Manila as the Marcos family and guests celebrated his 100th birthday. Marcos was ousted in a 1986 "people power" revolt and died in Hawaii three years later.

With riot police standing by, the protesters burned portraits combining half of Marcos' face with half of President Rodrigo Duterte's face. Others held placards reading "Marcos no hero." Pro-Marcos supporters yelled his name in a separate rally nearby.

"This 'celebration' is part of the political rehabilitation of the Marcoses, courtesy of President Duterte," said protest leader Bonifacio Ilagan. "Marcos has never been worthy of a tribute, not even a provincial holiday. To glorify Marcos is to absolve him of his crimes against the Filipino people."

Duterte, whose presidential campaign was backed by one of Marcos' daughters, has declared Marcos' birthday a holiday in the late president's northern home province of Ilocos Norte. In November, he approved Marcos's burial in a secrecy-shrouded ceremony in Heroes' Cemetery, shocking democracy and rights advocates and sparking protests.

Duterte has defended his pro-Marcos actions. "Why? What's wrong?" Duterte asked during a news conference over the weekend when asked about his holiday declaration. "He was a president, to the Ilocanos, he was the greatest president," he said, referring to Ilocos Norte residents.

Last month, he said the Marcos family has indicated a willingness to return a still-unspecified amount of money and "a few gold bars" to help ease the government's expected budget deficit. Duterte said without elaborating that he was considering designating three people to negotiate with the Marcoses over the return of the assets.

His remarks sparked criticism and warnings from anti-Marcos groups, which said the Marcos family should return all ill-gotten wealth without conditions and be made to account before Philippine courts.

World

Cuba's decrepit buildings no match for Hurricane Irma

HAVANA (AP)—The historic but often decrepit buildings of Havana and other colonial Cuban cities couldn't stand up to Hurricane Irma's winds and rainfall, collapsing and killing seven people in one of the highest death tolls from the storm's passage through the Caribbean.

AP

People clear debris outside their homes after the passing of Hurricane Irma in Havana, Cuba, Monday, Sept. 11, 2017.

Authorities said Monday that three more people were killed by falling objects or drowning, pushing the death toll to 10 in Cuba and at least 24 others in the Caribbean. It was Cuba's worst hurricane death toll since 16 died in Hurricane Dennis in 2005.

Most of Cuba's grand old buildings were confiscated from the wealthy and distributed to the poor and middle classes after a 1959 revolution that promised housing, health care and education as universal rights. But with state salaries of about $25 a month and government agencies strapped for cash, most buildings have seen little maintenance in decades.

Tropical rain and sea spray have chewed into unpainted facades and seeped through unpatched roofs. Trees have sprouted from balconies. Iron rebar has rusted, sloughing off chunks of powdery concrete.

Damage wasn't limited to Havana. More than 100 houses in a small town on Cuba's coastline were destroyed in Matanzas Province when Irma swept through the area, leaving hundreds of people homeless.

In every neighborhood, residents talk warily about the buildings that are one hurricane away from total collapse.

That hurricane came Saturday and Sunday as Irma ground up the northern coast, sending chest-high seawater six blocks into Central Havana and blasting the city with 60 mph winds.

On Galeano Street in Central Havana, a fourth-floor balcony dropped onto a bus carrying Maria del Carmen Arregoitia Cardona and Yolendis Castillo Martínez, both 27. In the cities of Matanzas, Ciego de Avila and Camaguey, three men in their 50s and 60s died in building collapses. The government noted in a sternly worded press release that each "did not observe the behavior recommended by Civil Defense."

On Animas Street in Central Havana, 51-year-old Walfrido Antonio Valdes Perez was caring for his older brother, Roydis, who worked as a florist until he was diagnosed with HIV. They lived on the second floor of building divided into 11 apartments, many of them divided by crude intermediate floors known as "barbeques."

WORLD BRIEFS

Saudi Arabia says it breaks up IS attack plot, spy ring

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Saudi Arabia said early Tuesday it had broken up an Islamic State group plot to have suicide bombers attack Defense Ministry offices, while separately dismantling an alleged spy ring in the kingdom. The dual announcements made by the state-run Saudi Press Agency show the security challenges facing the ultraconservative Muslim kingdom as it fights a yearslong war in Yemen and remains embroiled in a diplomatic dispute with Qatar with other Arab nations. The Islamic State plot targeted two headquarters of the Defense Ministry in Riyadh, the Saudi capital, a statement said. Security forces arrested two Yemeni men it said would have been the bombers, as well as two Saudi nationals. Saudi state television aired images of what it described as suicide bomb belts, as well as homemade grenades seized by authorities. Officials also seized firearms and other weapons, as well as a home used by the plotters in a Riyadh neighborhood, the Saudi Press Agency said. Saudi Arabia battled an al-Qaida insurgency for years and more recently has faced attacks from a local branch of the Islamic State group.

Guatemala congress rejects lifting president's immunity

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)—Lawmakers voted against lifting President Jimmy Morales' immunity from prosecution Monday, hours after a congressional commission recommended the protection be withdrawn to open the way for a possible trial on campaign-finance accusations. Congress voted overwhelmingly not to do so. But since the measure failed to meet a threshold of 105 votes either for or against needed to settle the matter for good, it now goes into a kind of dormant state and can be reconsidered in another session of congress. Morales has been targeted by investigators amid allegations that about $825,000 in financing for his 2015 campaign was hidden and that other expenditures had no explainable source of funding. The president has denied any wrongdoing. He issued a statement Monday night saying that the congressional decision "demonstrates the democratic maturity" of Guatemala's institutions. Earlier Monday, Julio Ixcamey, head of the five-member commission of lawmakers, said it had found evidence of unregistered money in campaign funds. But he also said Morales "did not have a direct participation in registering funds and contributions." The investigation was conducted by Guatemalan prosecutors as well as Ivan Velasquez, the head of a U.N. anti-corruption commission that has been working in the Central American nation for a decade.

Focus

'It's devastating:'

Florida residents stunned by destruction

AP
Overturned trailer homes are shown in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, Monday, Sept. 11, 2017, in the Florida Keys.

Florida residents got a first look of the destruction Irma caused as it swept over the state, leaving virtually no area of the peninsula untouched. Some donned waders to slog through thigh-high water and stuffed bags with all of the belongings they could carry after being forced to leave apartment buildings and mobile homes. Many were shaken by a storm they said was more powerful than they had ever seen.

Their stories provide a glimpse into the extensive reach of Irma's wrath:

'THIS IS NOT SAFE'

Aide Valadares packed up her belongings Monday after Hurricane Irma ripped the roof off of her apartment complex in Miami.

She said water leaked into the top-floor apartments and the ceiling sagged in her one-bedroom unit below.

The walls bowed and cracked in the living room, where she had hung prints of her favorite paintings from Colombian painter Fernando Botero, and Spanish artist Diego de Velazquez.

"You come home. You see this. It's devastating," she said. "The fire department came and said that structurally this is not safe," she said. "It will collapse."

GRATEFUL BUT WORRIED

Gwen Bush watched from her window early Monday morning as the water rose around her central Florida home. She had been sitting in darkness for hours as she listened to trees snap and water bubble. When it began to seep under her front door, she thought of the scenes of Hurricane Harvey in Texas that she had seen on TV.

"I was scared to death, I thought I was gonna die," she said. "I can't swim and the water kept rising; it was all the way up to my windows. I actually thought I was not going to live through this. I started praying."

Bush saw the National Guard and firefighters outside with boats and big trucks. She grabbed a hurricane kit she'd packed the day before, pushed open the door, and waded through thigh-deep water to reach the rescuers, who took her to a shelter a few miles (kilometers) away.

As day broke, she was grateful to be alive—but worried about the future. She had frantically tried to stack her belongings on top of beds and cabinets as the water rushed in, but she assumes she probably lost almost everything in her rented home.

Bush, 50, works as a security guard at a sports and music venue in Orlando, and only gets paid when she works. Concerts and shows were canceled in the days leading up to the storm, and she's not sure when she'll be able to get back to work.

As the storm closed in, she spent the last $10 she had on food and water. Now she has nothing left but the red sweatsuit she escaped in. Even her shoes were ruined by the water and muck.

"How are we gonna survive from here?" she said. "What's going to happen now? I just don't know."

WAITING ON THE BRIDGE

Robert Hickok, a 51-year-old commercial fisherman, spent hours stranded in his truck on a bridge amid fast-rising waters as he tried to leave Plantation Island.

He decided to ride out the storm on the island, where he's lived for about four years, and sat tight through hours of rain and wind and flying debris. He was relieved when things became calm in the wee hours of Monday morning.

"It got real calm, you know," he said in a phone interview. "The rain let up and it quit blowing and I was still on the island and I thought it was all over."

But when he looked out the window 30 or 45 minutes later, the road was covered with water. As he watched, it began rising fast. He immediately got in his truck, but by the time he'd driven roughly a mile to the bridge, it was too late. Everglades City, on the other side of the bridge, was flooded and there was nowhere to go.

"Thank God the bridge was there," he said. "If the bridge wasn't there, it'd have been bad."

He hunkered down in his truck and hoped the water wouldn't rise any higher. At daybreak, the water began to recede and he was able to drive off the island.

He returned to his home around midday Monday to find it destroyed.

"It's all gone. It's a total loss," he said. "The trailer, boat, car, everything."

FAST-RISING WATERS

Ken Christian woke up at 5 a.m. Monday and saw water an inch below his door in the San Marco district near the St. Johns River in Jacksonville.

"I laid back down, and 30 minutes later, there was 3 inches in the apartment. At one point it got up to 3 feet. We got all the canned good we could and got out," he said.

The National Weather Service said the storm surge from Irma broke the flooding record in Jacksonville previously set by Hurricane Dora in 1964. It hit particularly hard along both shores of the St. Johns River that cuts through downtown.

Water was 4 feet deep in the three blocks of houses and apartments leading to the river. One man used his daughter's surfboard to paddle along streets to check out the damage.

Another man, Darin Van Gundy, waded through the streets to check on friends. He woke up at 6:30 a.m. to find water creeping up to his door. Within a few hours, the bottom floor of his two-story apartment had 4 feet of water.

"We lost some art we never imagined we could lose because we brought it up 4 feet, and it crested at 5 feet in spots," he said.

DON'T LAUGH AT THAT

Laura Keeney, of Key West, had her pet bird with her in a hotel lobby in Miami.

"He has been making so much noise in the room," said Keeney, who works as a concierge at the Hyatt in Key West.

She said that her apartment manager told her that her unit had flooded, but she didn't know the extent of the damage.

"They told me 'there is definitely water in the downstairs apartment,' which is me," she said.

Her pet bird, a blue macaw named Odie, chuckled.

"He is laughing at the most inopportune moments," she said.

WORSE THAN ANDREW

West of Miami, in Sweetwater, the din of chainsaws and generators filled the Monday morning air. Irma's floodwaters had inundated streets and lapped at people's doors as the storm stomped through, but mostly receded a day later.

Fallen trees lined streets along with cars that got stuck in floodwaters. On the town's main drag, weary-eyed residents cleared branches, while city trucks with giant metal claws plucked away bigger debris.

Jesus Castillo, 50, said at least a foot (0.30 meters) of water pooled outside his home. "My entire patio was underwater," he said.

Around the corner, a group of friends helped a woman clear a large tree that had splintered like a toothpick. Over the backyard fence, 62-year-old Bayardo Perez wrestled with a mangled tin shed roof. He has lived in the house for decades and carries memories of previous storms.

"This one was worse than Andrew for me," he said, finally getting the crumpled roof free and walking off to throw it on a pile of debris.

SWAMPED BUT RESILIENT

In Bonita Springs, on the Gulf Coast south of Fort Myers, Kelly McClenthen and her boyfriend, Daniel Harrison, put on waders to enter her neighborhood Monday and they needed them: About 5 feet (1.5 meters) of river water stood under her home, which is on stilts.

The main living area was fine, she said, but everything on the ground level was destroyed.

"My washer and dryer are floating around in my utility room," she said.

The same area flooded during a storm about two weeks ago, Harrison said, and that cleanup was still a work in progress.

Now they'll start over.

"We weathered it out. We've got a lot of damage, a lot of cleanup. But we'll get through it. No doubt," said Harrison.

SEEKING SHELTER AND TRYING TO KEEP DRY

At Germain Arena in Estero, south of Fort Myers, where thousands sought shelter from the storm, people sat amid puddles on the concrete floor Monday morning. Rainwater leaked at the height of the storm.

"Irma went over and we were all like, 'Oh good, we survived.' And then all of a sudden, some of the panels came off the roof, I guess, and we started getting water pouring down in different places," said evacuee Mary Fitzgerald, 61. "It was like, 'Oh my God, what is going to happen?'"

The water stopped coming in after the eyewall passed, and people were streaming out to go check on their homes as the sun came up.

'I'M NOT LIVING HERE'

Larry Dimas and his wife, Elida Dimas, live in Immokalee, in inland Florida town about 40 miles (65 kilometers) northeast of Naples where entire areas were flooded.

The Dimases lost part of the roof of their mobile home to Irma, and one wall wobbled to the touch.

Cars and trucks drove slowly through a main intersection Monday to avoid causing wakes next to homes and businesses. Kids rode bikes on streets covered in water.

Larry Dimas said damage from Irma won't be easy to overcome in a town whose population is composed mainly of migrants and blue-collar workers.

"They just go to work and come home. Something like this happens and it's just ...," Dimas said, pausing and turning around to keep his emotions in check.

Dimas said it's still OK to live in his mobile home, but his wife disagrees.

"He wants to, but I'm not living here," she said.

'I'M GOING TO GET THERE'

Joseph McCord in Jacksonville would have probably not taken the hurricane barreling toward Florida too seriously.

But he grew up in Beaumont, Texas, and lived there most of his life, and a few weeks ago his parents' home was ruined by Hurricane Harvey. They lost everything.

"So I thought, I'm not taking any chances with this one," said McCord, who moved to Jacksonville two years ago.

He piled everything in his car and drove it to his work on high ground, where he had to stay all night to wait out the storm.

It was good that he did: he came back home to find his whole neighborhood of San Marco under water - the worst flood in Jacksonville in a century. It was one of several Jacksonville neighborhoods overtaken by rushing water from the St. Johns River and its tributaries as Hurricane Irma took its final lick at Florida.

Search and rescue teams pulled people from their homes. Residents circled the streets in kayaks and canoes, as trash, shoes, furniture, lamp shades bobbed by.

The water receded from McCord's house, though the surrounding streets remain under the flood. He tried to get home, but a police officer told him not to even try, that he'd get stuck there and they'll have to rescue him.

"I'm going to get there," he declared and marched on.

A NEW HOME, LEFT BEHIND

Felicia Clark and Johnny Thompson spent Saturday moving into their new house in St. Petersburg, on Florida's Gulf Coast. After a long day, with forecasts showing that Irma was headed their way, they decided to leave it behind.

They packed some clothes and toiletries and hopped in the car around 1 a.m. Sunday with their two dogs, Gracie and Roscoe. They headed north, making it all the way to downtown Atlanta before they found a hotel with rooms available.

Caught in traffic with others who'd decided to flee the storm, the drive that should have taken about seven hours took more than 14.

They've spent much of their time in Atlanta watching storm coverage on television. When Thompson took the dogs out for a walk in nearby Centennial Olympic Park on Sunday night, he met numerous other evacuated Florida residents.

Clark and Thompson were worried about their new home, but word finally arrived from family members who stayed behind.

Some tree limbs fell in their yard, but the house wasn't damaged. ***(AP)***

Good Housekeeping

Cocktails from the garden are coolly refreshing

By KAREN KANE
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Seasonal herbs, fruits and vegetables aren't just for the plate or the pot. They are as easily for the pitcher and the glass.

Be the toast of the town by enhancing your cocktail with something gathered from the garden or farm market.

We're not just talking about celery in the bloody mary or muddled mint in the mojito. When it comes to garden-to-glass refreshment, the only limit is your imagination, say the professionals.

Marissa Dallow, head bartender at the Breakneck Tavern in Mars, Pa., said fresh herbs and vegetables play as big a role at the tavern's bar as in the dining room. The innovative restaurant and watering hole prides itself on its locally sourced offerings from Butler County. Basil and rosemary are delivered to its backdoor twice weekly from a couple of little farms about five miles down the road.

"I love to use fresh herbs in the drinks. They make the biggest difference," Dallow said.

A little juicer kept in a handy spot is used to whirl the vegetables and fruits for customer favorites such as mango margaritas, strawberry-basil mules, and one of Dallow's favorites — which she hasn't given a moniker — cucumber-flavored gin with rosemary and fresh-squeezed grapefruit juice.

"We adjust the cocktail menu to the season to reflect what's available," she said.

Dallow said she and other staff will gather for a confab and talk about the tastes they want to create such as pickle-infused vodka.

"We buy local cucumbers from a family farm near here and pickle them. We'll combine the pickles with the vodka, add a little bit of the pickle juice, and on Sundays, we do bloody marys for our brunch with the vodka," she said. "Our pickles are kind of spicy so they give the entire drink a kick and then we garnish with them, too. They're delicious."

It's an easy undertaking for the home cook and gardener: Plant your own little "cocktail garden" — a rectangle raised bed of lemon verbena, lavender, chives, parsley, cherry tomatoes, cucumber and mint.

Denise Schreiber, who manages Allegheny County's South Park greenhouse and tended bar for a decade at a place in Market Square, said combining fresh cucumber with some muddled basil and gin is an especially refreshing summer drink.

She authored a book on edible flowers, "Eat Your Roses" in 2011, and suggested that picking a few posies and adding them to the blender is a tasty and aromatic way to impress. A half cup of chopped rose petals in a frozen strawberry daiquiri adds a fragrance and flavor to the sip while fresh chopped nasturtiums adds a peppery taste to a bloody mary.

"It's fun. It's a way to play with food and be creative and get people talking," she said.

John Wabeck, general manager of Spoon who has worked as a bartender and sometimes lends a hand behind the bar at the East Liberty restaurant, said cocktails should be approached as food: "Gear them to what's going on seasonally."

That applies to herbs, fruits and vegetables. In fact, on the day of this interview, he came to work carrying lavender from his garden for a cocktail that combines vodka, lemon juice, lavender syrup, Grand Marnier, absinthe and Aperol.

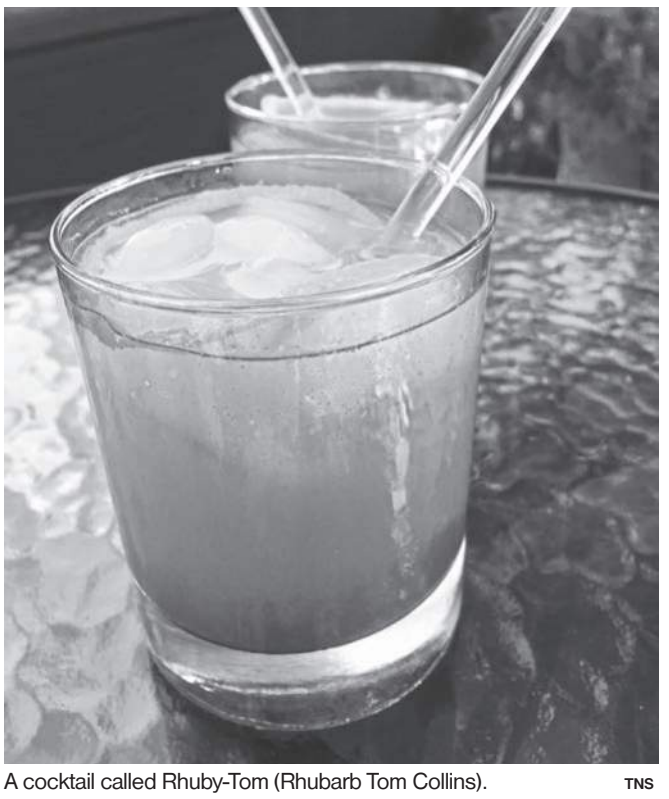
"Cooking with Cocktails" by Kristy Gardner (Countryman Press; 2017) is a heavy tome that proposes, in sum, that alcohol makes just about everything better.

There is a section exclusive to cocktails and they include some unconventional ingredients and some fun sobriquets: Dirty Sexy Coffee Drinks and Moscow Dark & Stormy, to name two.

I tried several cocktails and liked them all well enough to make a special trip to my backyard or to the farmer's market to get more herbs and vegetables to prepare more.

FRENCH 75 (2.0 EDITION)
PG tested
This cocktail has the sour-sweetness of limoncello combined with the effervescence of prosecco. The thyme is less a flavor additive than an aromatic that is inhaled while sipping. French 75 is beautiful to the eye and the tongue.
1 1/2 ounces limoncello
1 1/2 ounces gin
4 ounces dry sparkling wine
Thyme sprigs
Pour limoncello and gin into a champagne flute.
Top with wine.
Garnish with a sprig of fresh thyme.
Serves 1.
— "Cooking With Cocktails" by Kristy Gardner (Countryman Press; February 2017; $29.95)

French 75 (2.0 Edition) is made with limoncello, gin, sparkling wine and garnished with thyme sprigs. TNS



A cocktail called Rhuby-Tom (Rhubarb Tom Collins). TNS

RHUBY-TOM (RHUBARB TOM COLLINS)
PG tested
Tart, sweet and mellow. Well, it doesn't so much taste mellow as make you feel mellow. You would need a little mellowing after you have to muddle the rhubarb as the step required a bit of arm strength.
1 fresh rhubarb stalk, chopped into 1-inch pieces
1 teaspoon brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
Juice of 1 tangelo or other sweet orange
Freshly ground black pepper
3 ounces gin
Ice
1 cup tonic water
Ribbon of tangelo or orange zest for garnish
Place rhubarb, brown sugar, cardamom, orange juice and pepper in a shaker or mason jar. Muddle (which means slightly crush — but do not puree) until well pummeled. Add the gin and fill with ice.
Cover and shake. Strain into a glass and top with ice.
Cap it off with a little tonic and garnish with a ribbon of tangelo zest.
Serves 1.
— Adapted from "Cooking with Cocktails" by Kristy Gardner (Countryman Press; February 2017; $29.95)

This cocktail that is red in color and in an "on the rocks" glass is called "Boozy Beet Shrub." TNS

BOOZY BEET SHRUB
PG tested
I couldn't resist trying this recipe, especially after I read that the beets used to flavor this cocktail can be reserved and consumed on a cheese plate. Making this cocktail involves a bit of planning ahead, in that the beets have to be "pickled" for a couple of days before using.
Shrub
1 cup cider vinegar
1 cup cane sugar
1/3 cup fresh mint leaves
2 teaspoons smoked paprika
1 teaspoon coarse sea salt
4 medium beets, diced into 1/2-inch cubes
Cocktail
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 1/2 ounces beet shrub
3 ounces gin
Ice cubes
Crushed ice
Tonic water
Sprig of fresh mint for garnish
For the shrub, add vinegar, sugar, mint, paprika and salt in a nonreactive bowl. Whisk well to combine.
Add beets. Mix well and cover. Place in the fridge to macerate for 2 days, giving the mixture a good stir halfway through.
Remove solids with a fine-mesh strainer and pour the liquid into a clean jar.
For the cocktail, pour lemon juice, beet shrub and gin into a cocktail shaker or mason jar.
Top with ice cubes. Stir to chill for 20 seconds.
Fill a rocks glass with crushed ice. Strain liquid into the prepared glass.
Top with tonic water and garnish with a sprig of fresh mint.
Serves 1.
Note: The shrub recipe makes 1 1/4 cups. Store in fridge, tightly sealed, for four to six weeks.
— Adapted from "Cooking with Cocktails" by Kristy Gardner (Countryman Press; February 2017; $29.95)

Life & Style

This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Bill Skarsgard in a scene from "It." AP

The 'It' factor: How a scary big hit could change horror

LOS ANGELES (AP)— There are no sure things in Hollywood, but modestly-budgeted horror movies come pretty close. This weekend took that thinking to new heights as the big screen adaptation of Stephen King's "It" shattered records and even the boldest predictions with its $123.4 million debut.

Until "It," no horror movie had ever even opened over $55 million, let alone $100 million. It had a cast with no movie stars and it only cost $35 million to produce—on the high end for a modern horror movie, but minuscule compared to standard superhero budgets, which generally cost over $100 million and often run north of $250 million.

Even as the industry continues to lament the year's lagging box office, which is down around 5.5 percent from 2016, 2017 has been good for horror with massive successes like "Get Out," ''Split," ''Annabelle: Creation" and now the new bar set by "It."

"If 'It' had made $120 million total it would have been a huge hit," says Forbes contributor Scott Mendelson. "This is so unprecedented."

There is already a sequel in the works. "It" focuses on the children of Derry, Maine, while Part 2, expected in the third quarter of 2019, will focus on the adults.

Mendelson predicts "It's" success could lead to more modestly budgeted Stephen King adaptations, but cautions against thinking that its results can be replicated.

"This was very much the 'Beauty and the Beast' of horror movies," Mendelson said, referring to the Walt Disney Company's smash live-action hit from earlier this year. "You have a movie that would have been an event by itself, but you also have the source material that captures several generations of interest and nostalgia."

Beyond a newly energized appreciation for King's box office potential (excluding "The Dark Tower,") "It" has some wondering whether Hollywood's horror strategy might shift.

"Everyone has been trying to mold themselves into this low budget model that sort of doesn't work anymore. There are only so many things you can do with a limited budget like that," said Kailey Marsh, who runs her own management company and founded the BloodList, which highlights unproduced "dark genre" scripts.

"What I liked about 'It' was that it looked and felt really expensive. It felt as expensive as a $100 million movie," she said.

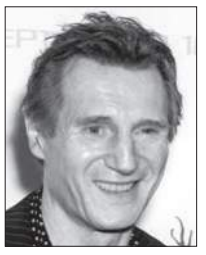
"It" hit a cultural nerve and become one of those rare must-see event movies that all studios long for, but the Warner Bros. and New Line production is also a solidly mid-budget film— which is its own kind of anomaly in the current moviemaking landscape that has relied heavily on "micro" and low budget horror films in the $3 to $15 million range in recent years.

It's a strategy that has worked well for Blumhouse Productions, the company behind the "Paranormal Activity" series, "Insidious," ''The Purge," ''Sinister," and this year's "Split" and "Get Out"— all of which cost under $15 million and most under $5 million— and something other studios have latched on to as well.

Liam Neeson says his days as an action hero are over

TORONTO (AP)—Special set of skills or not, Liam Neeson says he's finished making thrillers.

In an interview, Neeson said that he plans to stop even though it's hard to turn down the lucrative offers he gets thanks to his box-office success in the three "Taken" films, as well as other thrillers. Neeson believes he's simply getting too old to be an action hero.



Neeson

"The thrillers, that was all a pure accident," said Neeson. "They're still throwing serious money at me to do that stuff. I'm like, 'Guy's I'm sixty-f---ing-five.' Audiences are eventually going to go, 'Come on.'"

Neeson still has two upcoming revenge thrillers he's already shot: "Hard Powder," in which he plays a snowplow driver who faces off with drug dealers, and "The Commuter," with director Jaume Collet-Serra, who also directed Neeson in "Unknown," ''Non-Stop" and "Run All Night."

But, Neeson said, those will be his last.

"I've shot one that's going to come out in January sometime. There might be another. That's it," said Neeson. "But not 'Taken,' none of that franchise stuff."

Instead, Neeson has turned back to dramatic work. His Watergate drama "Mark Felt: The Man Who Brought Down the White House" was to premiere Monday evening at the Toronto International Film Festival. In it, he plays the high-ranking FBI official who was the Washington Post's "Deep Throat" source in the scandal.

Neeson has also lined up to co-star in "Widows," by "Twelve Years a Slave" director Steve McQueen. In December, he starred in Martin Scorsese's spiritual epic "Silence."

Cardi B. on meeting Beyonce, plans to release album in Oct.

NEW YORK (AP)—Cardi B. has a breakthrough hit with "Bodak Yellow (Money Moves)" and the rapper said she's ready to follow the single's success with an album next month.

"I have an album coming. It will be dropping in October. I'm an October baby," Cardi B., who turns 25 on Oct. 11, said in a recent interview. "I'm a little nervous to put the project out, but I think it's going to be pretty good."

Cardi B. said she's nervous because there's "a lot of pressure on" her after the success of "Bodak Yellow," which is currently No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, just under Taylor Swift's comeback hit "Look What You Made Me Do."

"Everybody's waiting to see what I'm going to have next and it's like, '...I hope people love it,'" she added. "But I have confidence. I really do."

"Bodak Yellow" has become a No. 1 hit on both the R&B and rap charts, and is one of the year's most streamed songs. The New York-born rapper, who first gained attention on Instagram, appeared on the VH1 reality show "Love & Hip Hop" before the song's massive success. The song has helped her become one of the few solo female acts to launch a major hit on the pop charts, which has recently been dominated by male performers for the last two years.

"It feels amazing and it's overwhelming. It's like, it fills me up with lot of happiness and a lot of joy," she said. "It's just like unbelievable. I've been through so many things and I worked so hard for me to be here, and it's like I'm finally here getting what I wanted, (and getting) the respect from other artists and from everybody."

Sides agree to stop monkeying around in primate selfie suit

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Monkey see. Monkey sue. Monkey settle.

Attorneys representing a macaque monkey have agreed to a compromise in a case where they asserted the animal owned the copyright to selfie photos it had shot with a photographer's camera.

Under the deal, the photographer agreed to donate 25 percent of any future revenue from the images to charities dedicated to protecting crested macaques in Indonesia, said the lawyers from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals who filed the lawsuit.

Attorneys for the group and the photographer, David Slater, on Monday asked the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to dismiss the case and throw out a lower-court decision that said animals cannot own copyrights.

Andrew J. Dhuey, an attorney for Slater, declined to comment on how much money the photos have generated or whether Slater would keep all of the remaining 75 percent of future revenue.

"PETA and David Slater agree that this case raises important, cutting-edge issues about expanding legal rights for non-human animals, a goal that they both support, and they will continue their respective work to achieve this goal," Slater and PETA said in a joint statement.

There was no immediate ruling from the 9th Circuit on the dismissal.

In this Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017, file photo, actor Jake Gyllenhaal, left, and subject of the film, Jeff Bauman pose for a photo before a press conference for the movie "Stronger" at the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto. AP

Movie about marathon bombing survivor premiering at hospital

BOSTON (AP)—The U.S. premiere of a film chronicling the story of Boston Marathon bombing survivor Jeff Bauman is taking place at the hospital where he and others who were injured in the 2013 deadly attack were treated.

The movie, "Stronger," will screen at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston on Tuesday. It arrives in theaters Sept. 22.

The movie stars Jake Gyllenhaal as Bauman and "Orphan Black" actress Tatiana Maslany as Bauman's then-girlfriend, Erin Hurley. Bauman, Hurley and their on-screen counterparts are expected to attend the premiere.

Hurley was running the marathon and Bauman was there to cheer her on when two bombs went off near the finish line. He lost his legs.

The movie is based on Bauman's memoir of the same name.

Many of the people who treated Bauman play themselves in the movie.

Tonya Harding, Louis C.K. films lead big buys in Toronto

TORONTO (AP)—A film that finds the comedy and humanity in Tonya Harding is the biggest acquisition of the Toronto International Film Festival.

Domestic distribution rights for "I, Tonya," starring Margot Robbie as the notorious Olympic skater, were bought by a pair of new companies, Neon and 30West, on Monday. Trade reports pegged the price at $5 million.

Director Craig Gillespie's film had been the hottest property in Toronto, with many predicting Oscar nominations for Robbie and co-star Allison Janney, who plays Hardin's mother, LaVona Golden.

The movie introduces itself as based on "irony free, wildly contradictory, totally true" interviews with Harding and Jeff Gillooly, Harding's scheming ex-husband. Gillooly and Harding's bodyguard, Shawn Eckhardt, became tabloid regulars after they were arrested for hiring an attacker to break the leg of Harding's top competition, Nancy Kerrigan, in 1994.

In a statement, the film's producers, LuckyChap Entertainment and Clubhouse Pictures said it has been "a whirlwind few days" since the movie's well-received premiere.

"It was such a dance between obviously the humor and the emotion," said Gillespie at the film's premiere. "To take these characters we know so well in the public eye and really get a deeper sense of who they are as people and what motivated them - and the choices and the mistakes they made along the way - just made for a really compelling story."

No release date has been announced, but the film is expected to be put into theaters later this year in time for awards season. U.S. rights to the movie were initially acquired by Miramax in 2016, but were put back on the block in Toronto.

Louis C.K.'s black-and-white "I Love You, Daddy" also sold for a similar amount to the Orchard on Monday. C.K. financed the film himself and quietly shot it over the summer.

The comedy was one of the more divisive films to play at the festival because of its gleeful aversion to political correctness. In the film, C.K. plays a television producer whose 17-year-old daughter (Chloe Grace Moretz) is seduced by a veteran filmmaker (John Malkovich) rumored to have long ago molested a child.

The two deals are the largest yet of the Toronto Film International Film Festival. Earlier, Byron Allen's Entertainment Studios grabbed the Ted Kennedy drama "Chappaquiddick," directed by John Curran and starring Jason Clarke.

Though Netflix has frequently gobbled up films at festivals, it's been a relatively quiet TIFF for the streaming giant thus far.

But Netflix did announce one acquisition Monday, nabbing "Jim & Andy: The Great Beyond - Featuring a Very Special, Contractually Obligated Mention of Tony Clifton," a documentary about Jim Carey playing Andy Kaufman for the film "Man on the Moon."

Mechanical problems reported before crash that killed singer

MEDFORD, N.J. (AP) — Authorities say the pilot of a helicopter carrying country music performer Troy Gentry reported the aircraft was experiencing mechanical problems shortly before it crashed in New Jersey, killing the two men.

The helicopter went down Friday in a wooded area as it approached the Flying W Airport in Medford.

Gentry was one-half of the award-winning country music duo Montgomery Gentry. The crash occurred hours before they were due to perform at a resort housed at the airport.

Radio communication between emergency responders show the pilot was planning to make an emergency landing and was hovering in the air while waiting for the fire department to arrive. But the responders note seconds later the helicopter had crashed just south of the airport.

Gentry and the pilot were the only people aboard.

Appeals court rejects 2 more would-be heirs to Prince estate

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—The Minnesota Court of Appeals says two descendants of a former security chief at Paisley Park who Prince reportedly regarded as a brother are not entitled to share in the late rock superstar's estate.

A three-judge panel on Monday said a lower court ruled correctly when it excluded Brianna Nelson and her niece, Victoria Nelson, as heirs. They're the daughter and granddaughter, respectively, of the late Duane Nelson Sr. While they've acknowledged Duane wasn't a blood relative of Prince, who died without a will, they claimed Prince's father raised Duane as his son anyway.

The Minnesota Supreme Court rejected five other would-be Prince heirs last week. The appeals panel used the Supreme Court's analysis of Minnesota parentage law in finding that Brianna and Victoria Nelson are not entitled to inherit from Prince's estate either.

Kalamazoo guitar factory to redo facility with Rolling Stone

KALAMAZOO, Mich. (AP)—A guitar factory in Kalamazoo is teaming up with Rolling Stone in an effort to turn the historic site into a national music destination.

Heritage Guitar owners announced their partnership with New York-based Rolling Stone LLC and Kalamazoo developer PlazaCorp this weekend.

"We are excited to share that we are working closely with Rolling Stone, the most iconic name in pop culture for 50 years, and have a partnership agreement in place to develop a premium lifestyle offering at 225 Parson," said Jeff Nicholson, president of PlazaCorp. "They share our passion for the location's history and significance, and we are currently in an exploration phase to find operators for these opportunities."

Plans include incorporating a wealth of music and pop culture into a multimillion-dollar renovation of Heritage's nearly century-old factory that'll feature a live entertainment venue, instrument store, museum, recording studio, restaurant and rooftop bar.

PlazaCorp officials said Heritage will relocate to the basement of the original three-story location, which is part of the complex.

Kristen Bell sings 'Frozen' tunes at Florida Irma shelter

AP

In this Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017, photo provided by Kristen Bell, the actress sings to evacuees taking refuge from Hurricane Irma at a shelter at the Meadow Woods Middle School in Orlando, Fla.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Kristen Bell says she is "singing in a hurricane" while riding out Irma in Florida.

The "Frozen" star is in Orlando filming a movie and staying at a hotel at the Walt Disney World resort. She stopped by an Orlando middle school that was serving as a shelter and belted out songs from "Frozen." Back at the hotel, Bell posted pictures on Instagram of her singing with one guest and dining with a group of seniors .

Bell also helped out the parents of "Frozen" co-star Josh Gad by securing them a room at the hotel .

Bell tells Sacramento, California, station KMAX-TV, where her father is news director, that the experience is her version of one of her favorite movies, "Singin' in the Rain."

Patty Jenkins officially signs on to direct 'Wonder Woman 2'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Patty Jenkins has officially signed on to direct the sequel to "Wonder Woman."

A Warner Bros. representative confirmed Jenkins' return on Monday after Variety first reported the news.

Jenkins was widely expected to return for the sequel after "Wonder Woman" became both a critical success and a global hit at the box office earning over $816 million worldwide this summer. Negotiations took months to finalize a deal for Jenkins' return.

Jenkins

The Hollywood Reporter writes that her deal, which is reported to be in the $7 to $9 million range, makes Jenkins the highest-paid female filmmaker in history. The studio declined comment on Jenkins' pay.

Star Gal Gadot will also reprise her role as the Amazonian warrior in the sequel, which is scheduled to hit theaters in Dec. 2019.

Bronze Age grave in Greece shows nobleman's love of jewelry

ATHENS, Greece (AP)— Archaeologists in southern Greece have discovered an undisturbed tomb the size of a small house that belonged to a Bronze Age nobleman with a fondness for jewelry.

Greece's Culture Ministry says the 3,350-year-old chamber near Orchomenos, an important center of the Mycenaean era, belonged to a man who was 40 to 50 years old when he died.

The ministry said in a statement Monday that the 42-square-meter (452-square-foot) grave was only used once. That's a boon for archaeologists seeking to interpret its contents. Most such tombs were reused over many years, during which older objects were jumbled up or pilfered.

The nobleman's tomb contained pottery vessels sheathed in tin, bronze horse bits, jewelry, bow fittings and arrowheads.

The ministry says jewelry is more typically associated with the burials of Mycenaean women.

Mariah Carey's rap collaborations to be honored at VH1 event

NEW YORK (AP) — Mariah Carey's many collaborations with rap artists will be celebrated at the 2017 VH1 Hip Hop Honors.

VH1 said Monday the singer will be honored at the Sept. 17 taping, dubbed "Hip Hop Honors: The 90's Game Changers," at Paramount Studios in Hollywood, California. It will air Sept. 18.

Carey, who has launched countless pop hits, has been known for her collaborations and remixes with rappers, including Jay Z, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Busta Rhymes, Ol' Dirty Bastard, Nas, Snoop Dogg and Diddy.

AP
In this Saturday, March 11, 2017, file photo, Mariah Carey arrives at the Kids' Choice Awards at the Galen Center in Los Angeles.

The event will be hosted by actress Regina Hall and will also honor actor Martin Lawrence. Missy Elliott will perform.

VH1 said the TV special honoring hip-hop's foray into pop culture will also "recognize the victims of the hurricanes and provide viewers with ways to take action to help."

Parole denied for prison tailor who helped 2 killers escape

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Parole has been denied to prison tailor Joyce Mitchell, who was sweet-talked into providing hacksaw blades, chisels and other tools that two killers used in a prison break that's the subject of a Showtime miniseries being filmed in the region where it happened.

Mitchell will remain behind bars for at least two more years for helping killers Richard Matt and David Sweat escape through a manhole outside the walls of the maximum-security Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora in June 2015, according to a parole board decision released Monday. The panel said it was likely the 53-year-old Mitchell would again violate the law if released.

"The panel believed that you were easily manipulated by inmate Matt as he consistently and inappropriately professed his love for you that led to clouding your judgment," the board said in the decision following an interview with Mitchell last week at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, where she's serving 2 1/3 to 7 years.

"You stated to the panel that you were afraid for your husband's life, however you never consider the lives of the community at large by assisting with the escape of two extremely violent convicted felons," the board said.

Mitchell was also denied a bid for early release in February. Her next parole hearing is in June 2019.

Matt and Sweat used tools smuggled by Mitchell to cut through a steel cell wall and several steam pipes to make an escape route through the bowels of the prison. The massive three-week manhunt following their escape ended with Matt shot dead and Sweat captured near the Canadian border.

'Pinocchio,' 'Fantasia' animator 'X' Atencio dead at 98

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Xavier "X" Atencio, an animator behind early Disney movies including "Pinocchio" and "Fantasia" and "imagineer" behind beloved Disneyland rides like "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "The Haunted Mansion," has died at age 98.

Disneyland spokeswoman Suzi Brown confirmed a company statement saying Atencio died Sunday. No cause or place of death were given, but Atencio lived and worked in the Los Angeles area most of his life.

Atencio's drawings on "Pinocchio" helped give Disney its permanent identity in film and culture. His contributions to "Pirates" included the words to the "Yo Ho (A Pirate's Life for Me)" song that is sung throughout the ride and by parkgoers for days after.

He was born Francis Xavier Atencio in Walsenburg, Colorado. But friends in his youth called him just "X," the name he was known by the rest of his life.

He was still a teenager with a gift for drawing in 1938 when he began working for Disney, a company that was even younger than he was and had just one feature film—1937's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"—to its name.

Atencio would see his work on the big screen in the company's next two films in 1940, when he helped bring "Pinocchio" to life and worked on the musical and mystical "Fantasia" before leaving temporarily to serve in World War II.

After returning, he helped design stop-motion sequences for the Disney live action films "The Parent Trap" and "Mary Poppins."

When the company's work started including theme parks in the 1950s and 1960s, so did Atencio's. At the request of Walt Disney, he became an imagineer in the company's parlance, helping design rides for Disneyland and Disney World. He wrote the story and song that play out on "Pirates" and "Haunted Mansion."

"X was an enormous talent who helped define so many of our best experiences around the world," Bob Weis, president of Walt Disney Imagineering, said in a statement. "Some may not know that when he wrote the lyrics for 'Yo Ho' he had never actually written a song before. He simply proposed the idea of a tune for 'Pirates of the Caribbean,' and Walt told him to go and do it."

Atencio retired in 1984, but he continued working as a consultant. In 1996, was declared a Disney Legend by the company.

His death comes just weeks after that of another Disney Imagineering legend, Marty Sklar.

Atencio is survived by his wife, Maureen, three children, three stepchildren and nine grandchildren.

Handy advice and tips help girls sharpen social skills

DEAR ABBY: I enjoy reading your column, especially letters regarding young girls and their social skills. I have two granddaughters who have the normal drama, mostly with other girls. I worry their social skills are getting sidetracked.

I am interested in ordering your booklet about popularity. You have such a good way with words, and I'm sure the girls would find it helpful and enjoyable reading. They are the only grandchildren I have, and I'm trying to give them insight and help them along to become fully functional, successful adults. Is it still available?

LINDA IN TERRE HAUTE, IND.

DEAR LINDA: Yes, the booklet is still available. It was written in response to thousands of questions from readers over the years who were not naturally socially assertive and contains many useful tips for polishing social skills. It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. You will find the booklet covers a variety of situations and is meant for people of all ages. Everyone wants to be the kind of person others find interesting, attractive and worth knowing better. (If parents, teachers and clergy know someone needing help in this regard, it might make an inexpensive gift that could help change the course of that person's life.)

The key to being well-liked by both sexes is: Be kind. Be honest. Be tactful. Don't be afraid to give someone a compliment if you think it's deserved.

If you think you're not beautiful (or handsome), be well-groomed, tastefully dressed, conscious of your posture. (People who stand tall project self-confidence.) If you are not a "brain," try harder. If you are smarter than most, don't be a know-it-all. Ask others what they think and encourage them to share their opinions.

If you're not a good athlete, be a good sport. Be generous with kind words and affectionate gestures, but respect yourself and your family values always. If you think "putting out" will make someone like you, forget it. (It won't work, and later you'll be glad you didn't.) If you need help, ask God. And if you don't need anything, THANK God!

DEAR ABBY: My husband refuses to wear headphones. This means that when we sit in the living room together, I must put up with the blaring noise of whatever he is watching.

I do a lot of writing, and in order to think, I need silence. I have tried earplugs, but they don't muffle enough of the noise. Now, when I have had enough, I leave the room. This results in us being in two separate places, which he hates. Is there another solution I may be overlooking?

LOUD IN MAINE

DEAR LOUD: You might try noise-canceling headphones. However, if that doesn't work, because you need to "hear" in your head the sentences you are trying to write, you may have to do your writing when your husband is not at home.

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HOBBES AND I ARE SECEDING FROM THIS FAMILY, MOM.
OH REALLY?
YEP. WE'RE TAKING MY SLED AND MOVING TO THE YUKON.
WELL, THAT'S A LONG WAY AWAY.
I KNOW. HERE'S A LIST OF SANDWICHES AND SUPPLIES WE'LL NEED.
WHY SHOULD I DO ALL THIS IF YOU'RE SECEDING FROM THE FAMILY?
WE HAVEN'T SECEDED YET! GEEZ, WHAT KIND OF MOM ARE YOU?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OKAY. HOW'S THIS FOR AN UMMY GUMMY?
LET'S SEE.
OH! OH, WOW!
IT'S LIKE YOU REACHED IN MY EAR AND PULLED AN UMMY GUMMY RIGHT OUT OF MY BRAIN.
GROSS. DIDN'T A DOCTOR PULL A GUMMY BEAR OUT OF YOUR EAR ONCE?
YES. I WAS LIVING PRETTY FAST BACK THEN.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

OUR NEXT GUEST IS THE AUTHOR OF THE NEW BOOK "ALL ABOUT INTROVERTS".
I SAID, OUR NEXT GUEST...
LET'S PAUSE WHILE WE TRY TO BREAK INTO HIS DRESSING ROOM...

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 May honoree
4 Scoundrel
7 "Ditto"
8 Salary
10 Rainy month
11 Cochise, for one
13 Make a long story short
16 Mag. staff
17 Part of LED
18 Gun lobby org.
19 Hawaiian city
20 Thames town
21 Fragment
23 Chef's garb
25 Oodles
26 Hollywood clashers
27 TV spots
28 Stopped lying?
30 Nosh
33 Make a long story short
36 Make fizzy
37 Should, with "to"
38 Danger
39 Depend (on)
40 Computer key
41 "Science Guy" Bill

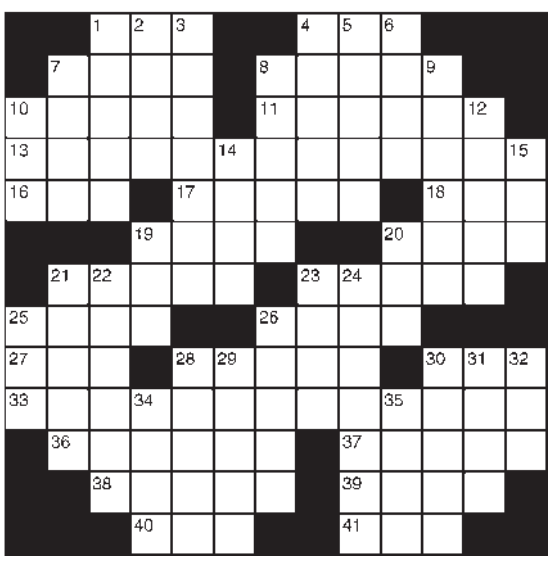
DOWN

1 Shopping centers
2 Skip
3 Tuneful
4 Like many superheroes
5 Open-mouthed
6 Erte's style
7 Raced
8 "Yippee!"
9 Japanese faith
10 Census stat
12 Noted 2001 bankruptcy
14 Scrabble piece
15 Light brown
19 "Psst!"
20 Triage ctrs.
21 City near Venice
22 Foot part
23 Malaria symptom
24 Movie snack
25 Buddy
26 Lucy's pal
28 Skyrockets
29 Top story
30 Two under par
31 Wan
32 Hanoi holiday
34 Sloth's home
35 Donald Duck's nephew

Solution time: 23 mins.

A	L	E	C		H	A	S		O	D	O	R
S	A	R	A		A	H	I		R	I	G	A
A	V	I	V		C	O	R	N	B	E	L	I
P	A	N	I	C	K	Y		O	A	T	E	S
			A	A	S		E	T	C			
S	M	A	R	T		C	A	S	H	B	A	R
A	I	R			B	O	T			A	D	A
C	A	K	E	B	O	X		B		D	D	Y
			D	I	G		C	O	N			
O	S	A	G	E		B	_	A		H	E	R
C	H	O	I	R	B	O	Y		O	A	H	U
H	O	M	E		A	N	D			R	U	E
S	E	F	R		G	F	F		O	D	D	S

Yesterday's answer 9-13



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Niall Horan, 24; Ben Savage, 37; Jean Smart, 66; Jacqueline Bisset, 73.

Happy Birthday: Work with the system, not against it. Take care of problems concerning parents or matters that can affect your health, home or reputation. Prepare to make adjustments to the way you live that will help alleviate any stress and tension that have been plaguing you. Let go of the past so that you can move forward. Your numbers are 5, 17, 21, 23, 29, 38, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Partnerships should be handled with care. What appears to be an opportunity may also require you to take on added responsibilities that are difficult to fit into your schedule. Don't make an impulsive decision. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Rely on past experiences when someone asks for help. Offering solutions is one thing, but paying for someone's mistake is another. Be thoughtful, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Attend a reunion or reconnect with an old friend. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Redo your resume or clear a space at home conducive to developing a skill or learning about new techniques or technology. Making upgrades will lead to a new opportunity. What you do will have a greater impact than what you say. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Underlying problems will surface if you or someone you are close to withholds information. Dealing with institutions will be a slow process. Make sure your personal documents are in order and allow ample time to reach your goals. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Fix up your surroundings or change the way you do things. Look at your professional options and consider the best ways to earn a living using your skills. Love and romance are featured and will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Face challenges head-on. Look for alternative ways to get things done. Refuse to let obstacles stand in your way or create tension between you and those you deal with daily. If you want something, be willing to work for it. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Make changes that will bring about new beginnings or opportunities. Make adjustments to build greater confidence and secure your future. Someone with more experience than you will be more helpful than anticipated. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Limit your spending and focus on your work and how best to earn more. A career change or finding a way to lower your overhead will give you greater freedom to express and follow through with your goals. Take care of health issues promptly. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Reconnecting with someone from your past will lead to emotional uncertainty. It's best to be open regarding your feelings and intentions. Expect someone to be misleading or withhold important information. Arguments will not help solve problems. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Business trips or educational pursuits will give you plenty to think about. Don't feel like you have to make a quick decision. An emotional situation involving personal health and finances should be addressed. Don't reveal personal information to your colleagues. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Plan to have some fun with the ones you love and a romantic evening with your favorite squeeze. A makeover, new hairstyle or trendy outfit will meet with approval and plenty of compliments. Physical fitness should be a priority. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A willingness to listen will buy you the time to think matters through. Talking to someone you love and trust will help clear your head. Don't panic or react in haste. You'll find it much easier to deal with dilemmas tomorrow. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are complex, dedicated and persuasive. You are charming and popular.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					2	3		
				5	1	4	8	
				1	2	7		9
			7	8		4	5	6
		8	2					
5	7	9						
6		5	4					
3			5					
7	8	1	9					

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

2	4	7	8	9	1	3	5	6
8	1	9	6	3	5	7	2	4
5	6	3	2	4	7	1	9	8
6	5	1	9	7	8	4	3	2
4	7	8	3	5	2	6	1	9
3	9	2	1	6	4	8	7	5
1	8	4	5	2	3	9	6	7
9	3	5	7	8	6	2	4	1
7	2	6	4	1	9	5	8	3

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

FRENCH PRESS COFFEE Solution: 9 letters

D	R	D	N	I	R	G	S	E	C	N	U	O	B	C
N	E	E	Y	L	W	O	L	S	E	Y	I	E	A	S
U	S	T	A	S	T	E	S	H	H	T	M	E	S	H
O	I	S	A	T	S	E	C	T	A	U	E	O	K	I
R	S	A	T	N	R	T	R	R	L	M	R	A	E	K
G	T	O	I	P	I	A	I	O	A	C	F	N	T	E
D	A	R	M	K	E	E	V	R	E	K	A	E	B	R
E	N	O	E	E	W	T	F	E	Y	D	A	E	T	S
T	C	A	R	A	F	E	I	F	L	W	E	R	B	E
A	E	I	T	P	E	X	T	R	A	C	T	C	O	D
E	C	E	E	D	E	G	G	O	L	C	O	S	I	I
H	R	E	E	R	S	P	I	R	A	L	E	O	L	M
E	T	A	L	P	O	U	R	A	D	D	E	D	L	E
S	E	E	R	U	S	S	E	R	P	I	S	T	O	N
S	C	A	L	E	R	U	T	A	R	E	P	M	E	T

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Added, Basket, Beaker, Boil, Brew, Carafe, Clogged, Compress, Cool, Cross, Decaffeinated, Earthy, Extract, Frame, Grind, Ground, Heated, Hikers, Kitchen, Mesh, Ounces, Piston, Plate, Pour, Pressure, Ratio, Resistance, Rich, Roasted, Scale, Screen, Sediment, Slowly, Spiral, Steady, Steep, Stir, Taste, Temperature, Timer, Travel, Volume, Water

Yesterday's Answer: Bistro

Treasuries 13 through 28 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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Performs all accounting & auditing related duties.

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jocelynd@bcmcpa.com

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Tel.: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
website: www.developcnmi.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS
2014-CDA-12-IFB

CLOSING DATE: Friday, September 22, 2017 TIME: 10:00 a.m.

"PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE FOR AIR CONDITION UNITS"

The scope of work may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority office located on the 2nd floor of the CDA Building, Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-16
(Revised, Version 1)
SUBMISSION DATE: September 26th, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"TWO (2) NEW 2016–2017 VEHICLES (5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle)"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/s/JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP-17-CHCC/WIC-25

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 19, 2017 TIME: 10:00AM

"REPAINTING PROJECT, WOMEN, INFANTS, &CHILDREN (WIC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT
A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD AT 9:00A.M., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND.

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2017

Opening date: August 28, 2017 **Closing date: September 15, 2017**

Positions:(1) Tinian Ports Manager (Tinian) (1) Equipment Operator-I (Saipan)
(1)ARFF Maintenance-I (Saipan) (1) General Maintenance-II (Rota-Seaport)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport***. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than ***5:00 p.m Friday, September 15, 2017.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at cpa.personnel@pticom.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

WHATZIT Solution: Wait on hand and foot

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Indians get win No. 19, move closer to record

CLEVELAND (AP)—One more day. One more game. One more win.

The Cleveland Indians are ripping off victories like few teams before them.

And, they're not finished.

With their latest lopsided win, the Indians extended the majors' longest winning streak in 15 years to 19 games on Monday night by blowing out the Detroit Tigers 11-0 to move closer to a record that has stood for 101 years. The 1916 New York Giants hold the record for the longest winning streak in MLB history at 26 games, but this streak includes a tie, which is not counted toward official statistics. The longest winning streak not including a tie belongs to the 1935 Chicago Cubs at 21 games.

Francisco Lindor tripled home three runs off rookie Myles Jaye (0-1) in the second inning, and the Indians, who haven't lost since Aug. 23, prolonged the third-best winning streak since 1947.

But while they may be the talk of baseball, Cleveland's players are taking it all in stride.

To them, it's no big deal.

"Surprised? I don't want to say I'm surprised," said Lindor, who is batting. 338 during the streak. "We haven't really paid attention to it. We're just enjoying the ride and trying to focus on what we have in front of our feet. Today is in the past already. We focus on what we have tomorrow and we'll see what happens."

Cleveland is the sixth team to win at least 19 straight, and the streak is the longest since the 2002 Oakland Athletics won 20 in a row—a run that was celebrated in the film "Moneyball."

The Indians can match those A's on Tuesday, and their chances of getting No. 20 are strong with AL Cy Young Award contender Corey Kluber starting.

At this point, it hardly matters who's on the mound.

The defending AL champions aren't just rolling, they're steamrolling, outscoring opponents 132-32 during a stretch that includes six shutouts.

They're making it look easy, but manager Terry Francona refuses to make more of the streak.

"I get it," Francona said. "I just don't feel like going there. I think it sends the wrong message. I think our message is always consistent, that, `Hey, show up and try to outplay them today.' I think they're doing a good job, that's the understatement."

AP

Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Carlos Carrasco delivers against the Detroit Tigers during the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, Sept. 11, 2017, in Cleveland.

Carlos Carrasco (15-6) struck out nine in six innings, Lindor had four RBI and Jose Ramirez hit a two-run homer as the Indians lowered their magic number to clinch the Central to six.

Cleveland joined the 1906 Chicago White Sox (19), the 1947 New York Yankees (19), the 2002 A's (20), the 1935 Chicago Cubs (21) and the 1916 New York Giants (26) as the only teams to reel off 19 consecutive wins. The Giants' record run is in the books as the major league mark, although it did include a tie, which does not count as an official game in baseball, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Even tying these Indians during a game has been nearly impossible.

Cleveland has trailed in only four of 171 innings, scored first in 18 of 19 games and has hit 38 homers. In a season where other teams have displayed dominance, the Indians stand alone.

"In the whole picture they're the best team in baseball," Tigers manager Brad Ausmus said. "No offense to the Dodgers and the Astros. Between their starting pitching, their bullpen, their athleticism, their lineup, they can get you from both sides of the plate."

Cleveland's streak has happened despite the team missing three of its best players: All-Star reliever Andrew Miller, All-Star left fielder Michael Brantley and second baseman Jason Kipnis. They're all on the disabled list.

"It's just the next guy up," Kipnis said. "It doesn't matter who it is or what goes down. We like the depth that we have. We have the players that go out and compete each night and you're going to win a lot of games when guys play with that attitude."

Ramirez is expected to be fine after suffering a bruised left forearm when an inside pitch caromed off his bat and hit him.

Miller threw 30 pitches in a simulated game, a major step in his recovery from knee tendinitis. The team will see how Miller responds Tuesday before deciding the next move. Kipnis faced Miller during the workout and doubled off the left-hander.

"After I fouled one off, I said, `I've already had a better at-bat than I have ever versus him in a game," Kipnis said. "He smiled at that one."

White Sox 11, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Jose Abreu nearly had his second cycle in three days.

Abreu had four hits, Adam Engel hit a three-run homer and the Chicago White Sox pounded out an 11-3 victory over the Kansas City Royals on Monday night.

Abreu, who hit for the cycle Saturday and had two home runs Sunday, drove in two and scored once while raising his average to .306. He drew a ninth-inning walk and was a homer shy of another cycle.

"We were sitting there in anticipation watching the at-bat," White Sox manager Rick Renteria said in the ninth. "It would have been something unique. I don't know how many times that's ever been done, two cycles in three days. But it would have been unique to see something like that happen again for him."

Royals reliever Trevor Cahill started off Abreu with a ball in the ninth. Abreu fouled off the next two pitches before looking at three straight pitches out of the strike zone.

"I went through that at-bat looking for his changeup," Abreu said through an interpreter. "He threw it, but I fouled it off. Then I had to make an adjustment to keep battling in that at-bat."

Engel went deep off Brandon Maurer during a six-run sixth.

Yolmer Sanchez, Yoan Moncada and Abreu, the first three White Sox hitters, combined to go 9 for 16 with six runs and four RBI. Moncada had his first career three-hit game.

Reynaldo Lopez (1-3) gave up three runs and eight hits in six-plus innings to pick up his first victory since Sept. 29, 2016.

Rockies 5, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, in a game with a postseason feel between two playoff contenders, Nolan Arenado let his bat do most of the talking.

Arenado's tie-breaking three-run home run in the eighth inning powered the Colorado Rockies to a win over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Arenado circled the bases, celebrated with teammates and exchanged some words with a heckling fan near the visiting dugout.

"There was a guy, he didn't stop talking the whole game. That was a pretty long game," Arenado said. "It is what it is. It was cool, man. It was fine, and he got me fired up, and lucky I was able to tell him to be quiet there for a second."

The Rockies took the first game of a key four-game series between the National League wild-card leader, Arizona, and second-place Colorado. The Rockies moved four games behind the Diamondbacks and 3 1/2 ahead of St. Louis for the second wild card slot.

Arenado drove in four runs with a double and his 33rd home run of the season, and the Rockies won their seventh straight road game and fifth overall.

Left-hander Tyler Anderson, activated from the 60-day disabled list on Sunday, pitched four scoreless innings in relief for the victory. Anderson (4-5) allowed a hit with four strikeouts.

Yankees 5, Rays 1

In New York, in the start of a series moved from Florida to Citi Field because of Hurricane Irma, Todd Frazier capitalized on Trevor Plouffe's two-out error with a three-run homer in a five-run fourth inning that led New York over Tampa Bay.

Jacoby Ellsbury broke Pete Rose's major league record by reaching base on catcher's interference for the 30th time, and David Robertson (8-2) pitched a career-high 2 2/3 innings in relief of CC Sabathia, removed with two on and one out in the fifth. Ellsbury was struck by Jake Odorizzi (8-8)

Opening a stretch that has 17 of their final 20 games in New York, the Yankees closed within three games of Boston in the AL East and opened a four-game lead over Minnesota for the top AL wild card. The Rays dropped four games behind the Twins with 17 remaining.

Rangers 5, Mariners 3

In Arlington, Delino DeShields homered after taking a speedier trip around the bases for an earlier run as Texas beat Seattle in the opener of a four-game series matching teams still hoping to get an AL wild card.

Cole Hamels (10-3) struck out seven in six innings to win for the first time in his last four starts.

DeShields reached on a one-out bunt single in the second, when he was initially called out before a replay challenge overturned the call. DeShields then raced home from first on Shin-Soo Choo's two-run double that made it 4-1, running through a stop sign from fill-in third-base coach Jason Wood and scoring on a nifty headfirst slide.

Two innings later, DeShields hit his fifth homer.

Alex Claudio worked a perfect ninth to get his eighth save in 12 chances.

Mariners starter Ariel Miranda (8-7) allowed gave up six hits and walked three in only 1 2/3 innings.

Blue Jays 4, Orioles 3

In Toronto, Ryan Goins hit a solo home run, Marco Estrada won his third straight decision and Toronto beat slumping Baltimore.

Darwin Barney had two hits and an RBI as the Blue Jays won their third straight and handed the Orioles their fifth consecutive defeat.

Mark Trumbo hit a solo homer for Baltimore, which entered three games back in the AL wild-card race.

Estrada (8-8) allowed two runs and four hits in five innings. Dominic Leone pitched around a leadoff single in the ninth to earn his first career save.

Ubaldo Jimenez (5-10) is winless in six starts.

Pirates 7, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Steven Brault and four relievers combined on a three-hitter to lift Pittsburgh over Milwaukee.

Milwaukee didn't get a runner past first base against the Pirates and fell 2+ games behind Chicago in the NL Central after outscoring the Cubs 20-3 in a three-game sweep at Wrigley Field over the weekend.

Brault (1-0), making his second start of the season, only allowed a fourth-inning walk to Ryan Braun and a fifth-inning leadoff single to Jesus Aguilar. He struck out six in six innings for his first major-league win.

Milwaukee rookie Brandon Woodruff (1-2), allowed six runs on seven hits and a walk in five innings.

Broncos block late FG, top Chargers in Joseph's debut

AP

Los Angeles Chargers running back Melvin Gordon (28) tries to elude Denver Broncos strong safety Justin Simmons (31) during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Sept. 11, 2017, in Denver.

DENVER (AP)—The rookie head coach iced the rookie kicker.

Shelby Harris got a hand on Younghoe Koo's 44-yard game-tying field goal try with a second left and the Denver Broncos began the Vance Joseph era with a 24-21 win over the Los Angeles Chargers on Monday night.

"It was a little too exciting," Von Miller said after presenting Joseph with the game ball in the jubilant locker room. "But a win is a win."

Koo nailed the kick moments earlier, but Joseph had called a timeout to ice the kicker.

"I had two timeouts and I wasn't going to leave with those in my pocket," Joseph said.

Derek Wolfe had bull-rushed the first field goal and told Harris, a third-year journeyman who made the team largely because of a rash of injuries along the D-line, that he'd get a chance to slice through this time because the guard would lean his way.

Sure enough, Harris got his right hand on the ball, which frittered short of the end zone as the Chargers looked on in dismay and the Broncos dog-piled Harris.

"It's too bad because Koo drilled the first one," Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers said. "And they called timeout and I think he drilled the second one, too. At least, that's what it looked like to me because it was going right down the middle. And I think if we get to OT, we would have finished it off, but we didn't get that chance."

Harris got the start only because Jared Crick and Zach Kerr were out with injuries.

"I'm going to be real with you: I have no clue what happened," Harris said of his heroics. "I felt it. I just couldn't tell you where I felt it."

Koo was also at a loss to explain what happened.

"I was just focusing on the kick," he said. "I don't know how it got blocked. It felt good off the foot. I'll just have to watch film."

The ending was reminiscent of last year's opener in Denver, when the Broncos escaped with a 21-20 win over the Carolina Panthers in a Super Bowl 50 reunion when Graham Gano missed a 50-yard field goal with 4 seconds left.

Denver took a 24-7 lead into the fourth quarter in this opener and the Broncos were feeling pretty good. And why not? The Chargers were 1-155 in their history when trailing by 17 or more in the fourth quarter and Denver was 175-0-1 with a fourth-quarter lead of 17 or more.

Then came a nightmarish eight-minute stretch in which they had two turnovers that were converted into touchdowns, a missed field goal and a punt.

"The game was in firm control for about three quarters there and we felt good but you turn the ball over twice on the short side of the 50, it's going to be a problem with Philip Rivers," Joseph said.

Before those fourth-quarter foibles, Trevor Siemian threw two TD passes to Bennie Fowler and ran for another score.

The Broncos held Rivers to 115 yards passing through three quarters but let him engineer a comeback when Siemian threw an interception and Jamaal Charles fumbled on plays that were upheld despite video evidence that had the crowd of 76,324 convinced they should have been overturned.

Rivers threw touchdown passes to Keenan Allen and Travis Benjamin following the takeaways to make it 24-21.

Back-to-back sacks of Siemian set up a 50-yard field goal try that McManus pushed wide right, giving L.A. the ball at its 40-yard line trailing by three.

But Koo's miss loomed larger in the final seconds.

Vikings 29, Saints 19

In Minneapolis, Sam Bradford set the NFL record for completion percentage for Minnesota last season, his accuracy aided by the volume of short passes under heavy pressure.

With protection from the rush, he showed Monday night he can throw the ball down the field with the best of them.

Bradford started his second year with Minnesota in style, passing for 346 yards and three touchdowns to help the Vikings beat New Orleans 29-19 and spoil Adrian Peterson's first game with the Saints.

"When I've got time to sit back there and kind of evaluate things, I've got all the confidence in the world that our guys outside are going to win," Bradford said.

Stefon Diggs had seven receptions for 93 yards, two for scores and all in the first half, and Adam Thielen racked up 157 yards on nine catches as Bradford carved up a Saints defense that looked again like one of the worst in the league despite a major renovation. Rookie Dalvin Cook rushed for 127 yards on 22 carries in the formal takeover from Peterson.

Peterson was limited to 18 yards on six carries, in a time share with Mark Ingram and Alvin Kamara and an afterthought once the Saints fell behind. Drew Brees was quiet, too, with 291 yards on 27-for-37 passing padded by the late push to catch up.

"We didn't do anything different or try to out-trick them," Vikings linebacker Anthony Barr said. "You know, line up and play, do your job."

Coby Fleener caught the only touchdown toss, after the 2-minute warning. Will Lutz made four field goals, three under 25 yards.

"The bottom line," Brees said, "is you've got to score touchdowns."

Brees and Bradford are both in the final year of their contracts, with the same agent, Tom Condon, who is sure to cash in on both clients. Brees has by far the better resume, nine seasons further into his career, but Bradford stole the show on this prime-time stage.

Behind mostly clean pockets created by a remade offensive line, Bradford completed 27 of 32 passes without a turnover. With three rookies and three free agents in the starting lineup, the Saints tried hard to better a defense that has held Brees and company back since the Super Bowl title eight years ago. The first performance left a lot to be desired, with Diggs and Thielen consistently finding favorable matchups underneath and along the sideline.

"I just try to run a route, catch the pass, but Sam, you know, he's a slinger," Diggs said.

The Saints had three unnecessary roughness calls in the first half. Two of the personal fouls extended a drive that ended with one of three field goals by Kai Forbath. The other 15-yarder was on safety Kenny Vaccaro for head-hunting Diggs during an acrobatic catch in the closing seconds of the first half. Diggs came right back with another highlight-reel grab to give the Vikings a 16-6 lead at the break after a 10-play, 95-yard drive.

Cameron Jordan and A.J. Klein each had their hands on a tipped pass in the end zone that fluttered off Cook's hands, missing a critical opportunity to thwart that drive and keep the deficit at four points.

Cook became the first Vikings running back to start a season opener since Michael Bennett in 2001. Despite trouble hanging onto a couple of passes thrown his way, he helped salt away the game in the second half. Bradford and Cook were the primary beneficiaries of the work done by an offensive line with four new starters and plenty of old external skepticism after a lackluster 2016 performance.

"In the building, we felt great about those guys," Bradford said. "We've seen what we're capable of doing."

Ten years and two days after Peterson made his NFL debut in purple with 103 yards rushing and a 60-yard touchdown reception on this same block of downtown Minneapolis, albeit in a different stadium, he returned in black, white and gold as a part-time player for the pass-first Saints.

The crowd was really fired up for the reunion with another former Vikings great. Former wide receiver Randy Moss, already on site as an analyst for ESPN, became the 22nd member of the team's Ring of Honor in a halftime ceremony punctuated by a passionate speech and shout-out to the fans.

With Terron Armstead still recovering from offseason shoulder surgery, rookie Ryan Ramczyk started at left tackle for the Saints. Then right tackle Zach Strief injured his left leg in the second quarter, forcing Senio Kelemete into action. Vikings defensive ends Everson Griffen and Danielle Hunter caused havoc.

The Saints play Sunday against New England, their only home game in the season's first five weeks.

The Vikings visit Pittsburgh on Sunday, their only road game over the first four weeks of the schedule.

Clijsters, Fernandez doubtful on Serena plan for Aussie return

New York—Serena Williams is targeting a return to competitive tennis next January to defend her Australian Open title, but two former stars who became parents question her ability to regain top form so soon after childbirth.

Williams gave birth to a baby daughter on September 1 and would be trying to be ready for play when next year's first Grand Slam event gets under way on January 15 on the Melbourne hardcourts.

Asked if that was a realistic timetable for a comeback, three-time US Open champion Kim Clijsters was dubious. And she retired for two years and had a baby before returning and winning her 2009 crown in New York.

"To me, it wasn't when I had Jada," said Belgian Clijsters. "It all depends. If you set your mind to it, maybe."

One unknown factor about Williams is how taxing the delivery was upon her.

"Depends how the labor and birth went," Clijsters said. "How your body reacts -- everybody reacts different in those situations."

American Mary Joe Fernandez, a runner-up at the 1990 and 1992 Australian Opens and 1993 French Open, noted that Williams, a 23-time Grand Slam singles champion, has been defying the odds for years.

"Maybe see her there," she said. "I couldn't have done it. Serena is an exception to a lot of rules."

Williams is one slam crown shy of matching the all-time record of 24 major Slam singles titles won by Australia's Margaret Court.

Ridin'Darrty, Serial Killaz clinch division crowns

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Naked Fish Ridin'Darrty and the Jonny's Serial Killaz claimed their division crowns in the Saipan Electronic Darts Association-Bud Light league after last week's matches.

The Ridin'Darrty topped the A division with a league best 225-132 record, while 6JMS-sponsored teams 101 Proofers (209-148) and Dragon Masters (204-148) ended up at second and third place, respectively.

The Ridin'Darrty secured the No. 1 ranking after a 12-5 win over the Franken Brau Drunken Warriors last week. In the other matches, the Masters won by default against the Mechanik's, while the Proofers downed the Predators, 11-6, and the Mafia dispatched the Gunners, 10-7.

The Darrty enter the Bud Light Cup as the top seeded team against the 101 Proofers. The Masters will face Mafia, while the Predators will have a bye and would take on the winner of the Drunken Warriors-Gunners match in the next round.

The Serial Killaz duplicated the Darrty's feat in the Thursday Flame Tree B division after beating Jonny's S.O.L., 9-6, to end up with a 209-106 record. They will meet runner-up Chow Time Drillers (193-122) in the first round of the Bud Light Cup tomorrow.

Third place Naked Fish Ridin'Darrty (181-134) will take on the S.O.L., while the Naked Fish Na'Gupu battles the Jonny's Real Deal, and the Naked Fish Dartaholiks clashes with sister squad DNA Jump It with the winners advancing to the semis on Sept. 21. The rest of last week's results are as follows:

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Jonny's Serial Killaz members are the Thursday Flame Tree B division champions in SEDA's Bud Ligjt weekly league.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Naked Fish Ridin'Darrty members celebrate their victory after clinching the SEDA-Bud Light A division crown.

Masters
Mafia 12, Nakayoshi 5
Pythons 9, Calamity Fun 8

Ladies
Exquisites 10, Hotmess 5
Momshies 9, Bull-It II 6

Chichirika C
Knights 12, Scorpions 3
Flukers 9, Bull-It 6
Bulls Hitters 8, Hut Shot 7

Kingfisher C
Parakeyu 12, Dart Vaders 3
Hit'em Up 10, Re-Darts 5
Ridin'Darrty C 9, Sunsports 6

Thursday Fanihi B
Dart Crafters 11, Bandits 4
Shaka 11, Strikers II 4
Mafia II 8, 80 Proofers 7

Thursday Flame Tree B
Dartaholiks 9, Jump It 6
Ridin'Darrty 9, Real Deal 6
Drillers 8, Na'Gupu 7

KONQER

From Page 28

"We wanted to promote a healthy lifestyle to the local community and have KONQER Saipan as part of MVA's sports tourism events. We're looking forward to having the same event in Tinian and Rota if logistics and funding permit, as we also wanted to increase tourism traffic in both islands," he added.

Sports tourism is a $7.68-billion industry that attracts professional and amateur athletes competing in various athletic events. The CNMI is hoping to get a share of that growing market by including sports events to other fun events on the islands.

KONQER Sports chief executive officer Kaz Endo supports MVA's sports tourism promotion, saying they will help the CNMI in any capacity as they also aim to bring their event to nearby countries. KONQER was previously held in Guam and Palau and with the addition of Saipan, the event is now a three-circuit race.

KONQER Sports president Kelli Wedd, on the other hand, said with the Palau Visitors Authority promoting eco-tourism on the island-nation, they decided to add that element when the race was held in Peleliu and Koror last June.

"It was fitting that we include an [eco-tourism] element in our inaugural event. The first day, we took a number of participants through the island of Peleliu, showcasing the natural and challenging terrain, and educating participants on what occurred during the Battle of Peleliu during World War II," Wedd told *Saipan Tribune*.

She added that the race in Peleliu was not timed, "but did add an element that showed both the beauty and history of the island. The second day of KONQER Palau was the traditional obstacle course challenge."

For KONQER Saipan, the event was held for only a day at the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park in Puerto Rico and 497 participated in the solo and team divisions spread out in four categories—Enduro, Sprint, Business League, and Completion.

Endo and Wedd posthumously presented a commemorative race No. 499 bib to the family of the late governor. Dora and Tina, the late governor's daughters, received the commemorative bib. KONQER Sports officials also gave one to MVA, race bib No. 498.

"We were proud to present the family of Gov. Inos with an honorary KONQER bib, in celebration of hosting the first major event at the Peace Park," said Wedd.

The rain, which made the course muddy and more difficult, stopped for a while and the sun came out as the commemorative bib was presented to the family of the late governor.

"The sun came out, it is a sign that the late governor is looking down upon as. We hope the Peace Park would be KONQER Saipan's permanent home," commented Endo.

Concepcion said holding the inaugural event at the Peace Park is their way of honoring the late governor, whose leadership pushed for the conversion of the former landfill.

"KONQER Sports and MVA wanted to recognize our late governor for his contributions to the CNMI. We would like to thank him for his efforts at closing the former Puerto Rico landfill, which today is a beautiful community park fronting our famous lagoon with a stunning view of Managaha island, Garapan, and the mountains of Saipan," Concepcion added.

TEEN

From Page 28

in a football game. Take the case of Iceland—its population is only 340,000, but it beat England in Euro2016 quarter finals," Mita said.

The head coach added that the Teen Ayuyus must not hesitate and be afraid of their opponents because they prepared well for the Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned tournament.

"We will do our best to bring the best results and we want to give the CNMI people hope and dream that even though we are from small islands, we can do it. Also, we will play for the development and the future of CNMI football," Mita said.

NMIFA president Jerry Tan, who led the well-wishers for the squad, seconded the NMIFA technical director's points.

"Showed them what you got and represent our islands well," said Tan, reminding the team to take every game as a learning experience.

The NMIFA official also thanked the Teen Ayuyus, their coaching staff, and those who did not make 20-player cut for their commitment. Tan made special mention of the players' parents too, recognizing their support to their children and asking them to keep allowing the Teen Ayuyus to train and be part of NMIFA's program.

"We have more tournaments to come and we want your children to continue to learn and represent the CNMI," Tan said.

V-GOD

From Page 28

took over, nailing the squad's next 9 markers. Blake also had a string of 3 points before Castro again stepped up and closed out for V-God.

Chris Arceo paced Big B's with his 8 points, while Jelbert Quitugua and Aaron Ogumoro posted 4 and 2, respectively.

Ogumoro's production in the title match was a far cry from his 11 markers in the semifinals where he lifted Big B's to a 21-14 win over Islanders. Angelo Factor helped Ogumoro in bringing Big B's to the championship game after adding 8 points, while Arceo finished with 2 markers. Rafael Ordonio and Ronald Bernardo recorded 6 points apiece for the Islanders.

In the other semis pairing, V-God pulled off a close win against the Warriors, 14-12. Castro also played a key role in their Final Four victory, as he scored V-God's last 6 points to end up with a game-high 9 markers. Bondoc registered 3, while Blake made 2. Kekuni Kainoa had 6 points on a losing effort for the Warriors.

Meanwhile, in the boys U16 finals, Khristian Itaas posted 6 points in Ballers Bros' victory over BoonkGang.

Itaas also drew enough support from teammates Anthony Lajara and Drew Bayot, who recorded 4 and 3 points, respectively, in the title game.

Paulo Cadag had 5 points for the runner-up BoonkGang, while Christian Bravo added 3, and Adonis Favor logged a point.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	81	62	.566	—
New York	78	65	.545	3
Baltimore	71	73	.493	10½
Tampa Bay	71	74	.490	11
Toronto	67	77	.465	14½

Central Division

Cleveland	88	56	.611	—
Minnesota	74	69	.517	13½
Kansas City	71	72	.497	16½
Detroit	60	83	.420	27½
Chicago	57	86	.399	30½

West Division

Houston	86	57	.601	—
Los Angeles	73	70	.510	13
Texas	72	71	.503	14
Seattle	71	73	.493	15½
Oakland	63	80	.441	23

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

x-Washington	88	55	.615	—
Miami	68	75	.476	20
Atlanta	64	78	.451	23½
New York	63	80	.441	25
Philadelphia	54	89	.378	34

Central Division

Chicago	77	66	.538	—
St. Louis	75	68	.524	2
Milwaukee	75	68	.524	2
Pittsburgh	67	77	.465	10½
Cincinnati	62	82	.431	15½

West Division

Los Angeles	92	51	.643	—
Arizona	83	60	.580	9
Colorado	78	65	.545	14
San Diego	65	79	.451	27½
San Francisco	56	89	.386	37

x-clinched division

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	1	0	0	1.000	21	12
Miami	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New England	0	1	0	.000	27	42
N.Y. Jets	0	1	0	.000	12	21
South						
Jacksonville	1	0	0	1.000	29	7
Tennessee	0	1	0	.000	16	26
Houston	0	1	0	.000	7	29
Indianapolis	0	1	0	.000	9	46
North						
Baltimore	1	0	0	1.000	20	0
Pittsburgh	1	0	0	1.000	21	18
Cleveland	0	1	0	.000	18	21
Cincinnati	0	1	0	.000	0	20
West						
Oakland	1	0	0	1.000	26	16
Kansas City	1	0	0	1.000	42	27
Denver	0	0	0	.000	0	0
L.A. Chargers	0	0	0	.000	0	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	1	0	0	1.000	30	17
Dallas	1	0	0	1.000	19	3
N.Y. Giants	0	1	0	.000	3	19
Washington	0	1	0	.000	17	30
South						
Carolina	1	0	0	1.000	23	3
Atlanta	1	0	0	1.000	23	17
New Orleans	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
North						
Detroit	1	0	0	1.000	35	23
Green Bay	1	0	0	1.000	17	9
Minnesota	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Chicago	0	1	0	.000	17	23
West						
L.A. Rams	1	0	0	1.000	46	9
Seattle	0	1	0	.000	9	17
Arizona	0	1	0	.000	23	35
San Francisco	0	1	0	.000	3	23

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KONQER Saipan King of the Hill

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ

Saipan International School students celebrate at the finish line of last Saturday's KONQER Saipan King of the Hill at the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park.

Team Pacific Islands Club-Saipan members pose for a photo before taking on the challenging obstacle course.

Pacific Trading Co. general manager Charles Cepeda, third left, and Team PTC Mountain Dew gather for a photo after completing the rain-soaked obstacle course.

Team Tao Tao Bud 670 members celebrate after finishing third in the Business League division.

The MV Zorrie Warriors pose for photographers.

Triathlon Association of the CNMI members enjoy the moment after completing the obstacle course race.

DFS Saipan Ltd. president Marian Aldan Pierce, standing third left, joins Team DFS T Galleria for a group photo.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan general manager Wendi Herring, standing second left, enjoys a light moment with Team Fiesta Rockers.

Indians get win No. 19, move closer to record

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Broncos block late FG, top Chargers in Joseph's debut

PAGE 25

Teen Ayuyus ready for tough grind

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI Boys U16 National Team members and officials pose for a photo during a send-off ceremony for the Thailand-bound squad yesterday at Kanoa Resort. The Teen Ayuyus will be competing in the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers in Bangkok.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI U16 Boys National Team is all set for the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers, expecting each match in Thailand to be an uphill battle.

"We prepared for this tournament for more than a year and we did almost everything to get the players ready. We kept training under the heavy rain, heat, and even during holiday. The boys gain a lot of confidence and they are excited to play in the tournament," CNMI head coach and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Michiteru Mita said yesterday during a send-off ceremony for the Teen Ayuyus at Kanoa Resort.

Joining Mita at the sendoff were assistant coach Jershwin Angeles, team manager Rodwealth Espana, physiotherapist Hazel Mabasa, and the 20-member Teen Ayuyus.

The national youth squad is made up of midfielders Razeff Altamirano, Taka Borja, John Guiller Canape, Mark Esalan, Sebastien Manabat, Jhoey Noble, Ian Maniago, Joshua Mendez, and John Michael Rojas; defenders Joseph Rasa, Rinto Takahashi, Terrance Montenegro, Eun Syu Hahn, Ichiro Borja, Reginald Pascual, and, Kirt Andon; forward Kaden Church; and goalies Jason Quimzon, Jamin Elliott, and Floyd Muna. Also part of the team are goalkeeper coach Jonathan Takano and physiotherapist Yuki Masuda.

The squad will be facing the host, Laos, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste in the Group G of the qualifier that will run from Sept. 16 to 24 at the Rajamangala Stadium in Bangkok. Mita picked Thailand as the favorite in their group, but believes their three other opponents are equally tough, too.

"To be honest, all teams are tough for us. The toughest country is Thailand. Thailand is an advance football country in the ASEAN region and the Thais are runners-up in the recent AFF U15 tournament. They beat Indonesia and Laos in that tournament. But, you never know what will happen

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V-God, Ballers Bros triumph in 3x3 caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

V-God and Ballers Bros took the championships in their respective divisions in the Saipan leg of the 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017 last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

V-God secured the boys U19 title after dominating Big B's in the finals, 21-14, while Ballers Bros clinched the boys U16 crown following a 13-9 triumph over BoonkGang.

Jeffrey Castro powered V-God to the championship victory after drilling a game-high 14 points. Dean Blake and Franco Bondoc joined the V-God point guard on the winning team with the former chipping in 4 markers and the latter adding 3. Bondoc scored V-God's first 3 points, while Castro

See V-GOD on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ballers Bros' Khristian Itaas drives against two BoonkGang defenders during their title game in the boys U16 division of the Saipan leg of the 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017 last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

JON V. PEREZ

Fiesta Rockers members crawl to clear one of the obstacles at KONQER Saipan King of the Hill held last Saturday at the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park.

KONQER Saipan adds to MVA's sports tourism promotion

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority is hoping to capitalize on the successful staging of the inaugural KONQER Saipan King of the Hill as it plans to add the event to its promotional pitch for the islands' growing sports tourism market.

Before KONQER Saipan, the CNMI, through MVA and the help of various sectors of the community—has also successfully staged several world class sports events like XTERRA Saipan, Tagaman Triathlon, Hell of the Marianas, Saipan International Marathon, Ironman 70.3, and Rota Blue Triathlon. These competitions have attracted athletes of all ages and skill levels from nearby Guam, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Chinese Taipei, the Philippines, Mexico, Austria, Russia, China, New Zealand, Great Britain, France, Switzerland, and Slovakia.

Now, add KONQER Saipan on that growing list as MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said their agency will continue to push for sports tourism to diversify the CNMI's tourism market.

"KONQER Saipan King of the Hill was a phenomenal success. We initially targeted 250 participants but we registered 497. This is the newest sporting event in the CNMI, so the MVA is pleased to present this to our visitors and residents," said Concepcion.

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